



American Music Research Center
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

Glenn Miller Collections

TOMMY DORSEY

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Prepared by

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CHRONOLOGY

Volume 1 - Chapter 10

Updated May 1, 2022

January 1944

Talent and Tunes

Holiday season finds New York once more the center of name band activity. Tommy Dorsey moved into the Paramount Theatre, brother Jimmy opened at the Roxy, Charlie Spivak started at the Hotel Pennsylvania and Xavier Cugat took over at the Waldorf-Astoria.¹

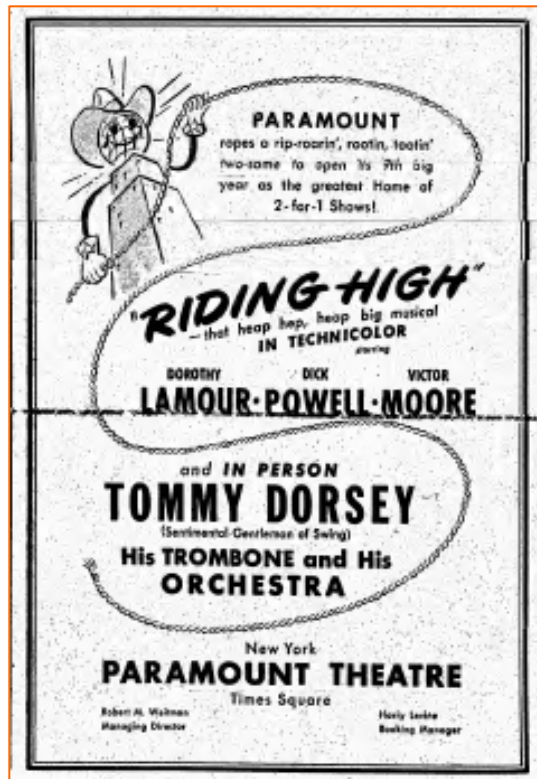
Vaudeville Reviews

Paramount, New York
Reviewed December 22, 1943²

"The regular Dorsey boys and girls are well quipped to put on a show but this time they get a hand, or rather, two handfuls of drumsticks from Gene Krupa. Who is sitting in for this date. Deal was clinched just prior to the opening, with time for only one rehearsal. The afternoon dailies picked it up as feature copy and by opening night word was out that Krupa was in. And by opening night Krupa was batting exactly 1,000 on the skins. Dorsey opened his layout with "Hallelujah" and the spotlight on the drums and followed with his standard "Song of India." Not a word was uttered on stage up to that point, but the thunderous applause made it plain that no identification of the drummer was necessary. Two songs from the four-girl Sentimentalists caused letdown. Gals sing well and voices blend harmoniously, but smarter arrangements are needed to sell the quartet. Krupa was then handed a solo spot in which he practically tore his drums apart and the house down. Had to encore with another demonstration of the ultimate in drumnastics, selling the most intricate rhythms imaginable as though they were jelly apples. And how the mob out front lapped it up! Betty Brewer, band thrush, scored heavily with "Put Your Arms Around Me Honey" and did even better with "No Love, No Nothin'," concluding with a special lyrical job on "Can't Give You Anything But Love" that band riffs behind her helped build it into a swell climax. Teddy Walters, with whom Dorsey is having contract trouble, was introduced by the leader as another Sinatra. Walters didn't miss by much. Youngster has a bigger voice and phrases in the accepted swoon pattern. Medley's "Heart Tells Me." "Beautiful Morning" and "People Will Say" and won the house. Encored with "Paper Doll," which gave him a chance to get off on his git-box (Walters is a ranking jazz guitarist), strictly a novelty coming from the crooner. Lad continued his high score by joining with the quartet on three cinch winners, "I'll Never Smile Again," "Star Dust" and "There Are Such Things." Dorsey does very little trombone work in the show, featuring his horn only once in "Sleepy Lagoon," but he's a fave at this Times Square showcase and his easy-going, occasionally humorous fronting cements his hold. Film is "Riding High." Biz standing room only and should continue that way."

¹ The Billboard, January 1, 1944, p. 61

² The Billboard, January 1, 1944, p. 22



January 10, 1944 (Mon) 7:00 - 7:15 pm (CWT)
Unknown Venue
(CBS) (WBBM) (Sustaining)

January 11, 1944 (Tue)

The band closed at the Paramount Theatre, New York.³

Dorsey gave the band eight days off between the Paramount engagement and a January 28, 1944 engagement at the Stanley Theatre in Pittsburgh.⁴

T. DORSEY, FORD COMING TO TERMS

"Tommy Dorsey is in the throes of negotiating a settlement of his suddenly canceled contract to broadcast across the board on the Blue, for Ford Motors. Leader's contract, calling for five 15-minute periods a week (8 pm) Monday-Friday, was to have paid him \$10,000 a week for 13! weeks. Spot Dorsey was pulled out of by Henry Ford's aversion to pop music was filled beginning Monday (10) by Ray Henley, news commentator, who has been on the air for Ford for several months."⁵

January 19, 1944 (Wed)

³ Variety, January 12, 1944, p. 19

⁴ Variety, January 12, 1944, p. 49

⁵ Variety, January 12, 1944, p. 37

M-G-M released "Broadway Rhythm."

FORD TEMPERS T. DORSEY PEEVE

"Tommy Dorsey has settled with Henry Ford over the cancellation of his signed contract to broadcast for the auto maker five times a week on the Blue network. Leader settled for an unknown sum. His cancelled contract called for \$10,000 weekly over a 13-week period. Dorsey was to have begun broadcasting for Ford Jan. 10 in the 8-8:15 pm slot on the Blue. About a week or so before that date he was cancelled out on Ford's orders. Reason given at the time was that Ford didn't want his name represented by a pop style dance band."⁶

January 28, 1944 (Fri)

The band opened at the Stanley Theatre, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for a one-week engagement through Wednesday, February 2, 1944. The film on the bill was "Aldrich Haunts A House."⁷

Tommy Dorsey traveled to Washington, D. C. by rail Sunday, January 30, 1944 and returned to Pittsburgh the following morning for his theatre commitment. While in Pittsburgh, Dorsey received an invitation from Dr. Fritz Reiner to appear with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra during the 1945-1946 winter season.⁸

January 30, 1944 (Sun)
Washington, D. C.
Personal Appearance

G M C

"The President's Birthday Ball"

⁶ Variety, January 26, 1944, p. 33

⁷ The Billboard, January 15, 1944, p. 13

⁸ The Billboard, January 15, 1944, p. 13

Reviews

STANLEY, PITTSBURGH, JAN. 28

Tommy Dorsey Orch (21), Gene Krupa, Betty Brewer, Paul Regan, Edward Sisters (2), Sentimentalists (4), Milton Raskin, Sal La Perch; "Henry Aldrich Haunts a House" (Par.)

No matter how many times Tommy Dorsey fires one band and organizes another, he always manages to come up with a winning combination. His current outfit may not have quite the easy glide of the crew he brought to this WB deluxer last year, but it's still head and shoulders above the average, and for the most part right in the TD groove. Result is a show of 60 swift and, silken minutes. Then there's the added marquee lure, and socko entertainment by Gene Krupa, guest-starring on the drums. It's practically a two-man show, for Dorsey virtually permits spotlight. The skin-beater also conducts the orch through "Sleepy Lagoon" while TD is trombone soloing. After tying things up in knots in his specialty, Krupa hikes down to the mike and speaks a few well-chosen and sincere words of gratitude to both Dorsey and the audience. If Krupa has been wary about public's reaction to his recent unpleasantness, he can forget about it. They were with him every inch of the way. Dorsey has four saxes, four trumpets, four trombones, three Violins, viola, cello, bass, guitar, drums and piano, and the blend's right in his groove. Starts with "Song of India," featuring Sal La Perch, a local trumpeter who recently joined him after a year with Hal McIntyre, and then brings the Sentimentalists down for "Sunny Side of the Street" and "Shoo Shoo Baby." They're four girls whose voices merge pleasantly. Milton Raskin, pianist, next goes to town on a boogie-woogie number and then it's Krupa for his sockeroo specialty. He's a tough guy to follow but Betty Brewer, band's femme vocalist, overcomes the handicap. Crowd wouldn't let her off and was still screaming after four numbers, "Put Your Arms Around Me," "No Love, No Nothing." "Can't Give You Anything But Love", and, "Murder He Says." Latter is weakest of the lot, it's not her type, Although ads carried Jimmy Cook's name as featured male vocalist, he didn't show up with Dorsey and no explanation was given. Two outside acts both ring the bell. Paul Regan cleans up with his standard impersonation turn in a manner, which qualifies him for a berth with the top mimics, and Edward Sisters, pair of sepians, point out a satisfactory, but distinctive tap session. However, they share the crowd's continuous enthusiasm for the Dorsey show and go over big. Five shows scheduled for opening day (Friday) instead of the usual four. However, house was only half full at the first show, suggesting the getaway could have profitably been confined to the customary."⁹

⁹ Variety, February 2, 1944, p. 21



At M-G-M with Charles Winninger, "Broadway Rhythm"

February 1944

February 3, 1944 (Thu)

The band opened a one-week engagement at the Earle Theatre, Philadelphia, appearing through Wednesday, February 9, 1944. The film at the theatre was "Doughboys In Ireland."

T. DORSEY WANTS VOCALIST WALTERS

"New York, Feb. 12 – Tommy Dorsey, off and on without a male vocalist on the road, has been trying frantically to get Teddy Walters back. Alters scored heavily with TD recently at the Pennsylvania Hotel and Paramount Theatre dates. The hold-up to getting Walters to rejoin the ork is that Dorsey wants a piece of him, and Walters' manager, who holds contract, says definitely no-go."¹⁰

ZITO JOINS T. DORSEY AS ROAD MANAGER

"Louis Zito, former drummer with Gracie Barrie's orchestra, joins Tommy Dorsey as road manager this week, replacing Dave Jacobs. Latter is returning to Hollywood, where he will represent Dorsey's music publishing interests. He recently got out of Army. Zito was with Ms. Barrie until she broke up the band about a month ago. With Jimmy Palmer, former singer with the outfit, Zito was going to try to keep the band together, but apparently it fell through."¹¹

T. DORSEY AND WB EARLE, PHILLY, TOUCH OFF FIREWORKS OVER % DEAL

Tommy Dorsey and officials of Warners Earle Theatre Philadelphia, wound up the leader's week at that house Thursday (10) in a violent dispute which culminated in Dorsey's vow he will never again play a Warner house. Warners, on the other hand, is said to have matched that in spades. This is strictly the leader's version of the dispute. Warner executives refused to comment. Dorsey played the Earle on an unusual contract, one which also applied, to his prior date, at the WB-owned Stanley theatre, Pittsburgh. He was on a \$12,500 guarantee, plus a percentage over \$28,500. Except for the high guarantee this deal is similar to the arrangement all top names get at the Earle. However, the contract further stipulated that if the week's, gross surpassed \$42,300, then Dorsey was to participate evenly (50-50) from the first dollar. Fuss began when Dorsey suspected the Earle of attempting to keep his weeks gross down, after which he admittedly bought up blocks of tickets at a time at the box office and had them distributed among schools, orphanages and kids on the street in a personal drive toward the \$42,000. Why the Earle officials, whose house is part of a national organization embracing film production, theatre operation, music publishing, etc., would quibble with Dorsey's chances of earning \$4,000 or more than he finally did, is impossible to understand, if it is true."¹²

Personnel

Jerry Cook (voc) replaces Walters

¹⁰ The Billboard, February 19, 1944, p. 13

¹¹ Variety, February 9, 1944, p. 41

¹² Variety, February 16, 1944, p. 1

February 18, 1944 (Fri)

The band opened at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago for a one-week engagement through Thursday, February 24, 1944.¹³

Oriental, Chicago (Reviewed Friday evening, February 18)

"Current Bill gets right into the entertainment groove with a smash show that keeps the bobbysoxers and jive fans whistling, shouting and applauding for more. It moves in a rapid tempo. Tommy Dorsey, headlining, gives out with plenty of swing, featuring Gene Krupa and a host of talented entertainers. The band, consisting of four fiddles, guitar, six brass, cello, piano, drums, bass and four reeds, is a versatile group and do smart arrangements of Song of India, Sleepy Lagoon and a special musical bit, Sunny Side of the Street, featuring the Sentimentalists, four smart-looking gals who give out in perfect harmony. Gene Krupa, the added attraction, stops the show. Lad still can beat out a terrific rhythm, and applause nearly drowns out his intricate skin beating. Betty Brewer, pert songstress, follows, and has a hard time keeping the customers quiet after Krupa's performance. Audience, however, soon armed up to her quaint style and gave her a big hand-slapping for her vocals on "Put Your Arms Around Me, Honey" and "I Can't Give You Anything But Love." Jerry Cook, singer and newcomer with the band, came near starting a Sinatra panic with the femmes with his smooth crooning of "My Heart Tells Me," "Oh! What A Beautiful Mornin'" and "People Will Say We're In Love." Finishes his act with the Sentimentalists in a good arrangement of "There Are Such Things".¹⁴

February 25, 1944 (Fri) – March 2, 1944 (Thu)
Circle Theatre
Indianapolis, Indiana
(Stage Shows)

¹³ Chicago Tribune, February 18, 1944, p. 18

¹⁴ The Billboard, February 26, 1944, p. 22



The Sentimentalists
(GMA Edward Burke Collection)

March 1944

March 3, 1944 (Fri) – March 9, 1944 (Thu)
RKO Albee Theatre
Cincinnati, Ohio
(Stage Shows)

March 8, 1944 (Wed)

M-G-M signed Tommy Dorsey for the film project “Thrill of A Romance” and for work to begin in July 1944.¹⁵

SQUABBLE RE T. DORSEY DATES AT PAR AND CAP, N. Y., DUE TO BOIL OVER

“Tommy Dorsey’s Broadway theatre booking squabble involving the Paramount and Capitol, over which has the right to the bandleader’s next appearance on the main stem, is due to blaze again after smoldering the past couple months. ‘Loew’s booking office, which buys talent for the Capitol, has assigned Dorsey a June 28 opening date on the basis of a contract he signed on the coast last year with M-G-M film executives. Paramount claims it holds a pact with Dorsey for another date at that house before he plays the Capitol. Paramount has given its case to the AFM. Leaders contract with the Capitol calls for a date at that house before the end of the year. Since Dorsey has played the Paramount over the past holidays, it wouldn’t help either house, it’s held, if he were to complete both dates before the end of the year.

“Bob Allen joins Tommy Dorsey’s band in Cincinnati today (Wednesday) and will begin singing with it at the Palace Theatre, Cleveland, where Dorsey opens Friday (10). He replaces Jimmy Cook. Allen only recently gave up his own band. He has since been doing an occasional solo booking. He had an offer from Dorsey once before, soon after receiving a 4-F.”¹⁶

March 10, 1944 (Fri) – March 16, 1944 (Thu)
Palace Theatre
Cleveland, Ohio
(Stage Shows)

¹⁵ Variety, March 8, 1944, p. 43

¹⁶ Variety, March 8, 1944, p. 43

March 24, 1944 (Fri) 9:30 - 9:55 pm
Navy Flight Prep School, Wooster College, Ohio
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 473 (BLUE)
Wayne Griffin, announcer

AFRS Spotlight Bands 318 (SS 3-25-?)

B-D8-2, AFRS-326

Dubbed AFRS Open, Coca Cola Signature (partial), Shoo Shoo Baby (TS), I Couldn't Sleep a Wink Last Night (BA), When They Ask About You (BB), Not So Quiet Please (GK solo), Well, Git It!, Coca Cola Signature (partial), Dubbed AFRS Close

Mach 27, 1944 (Mon) 9:30 - 9:55 pm (Unidentified Venue)
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 475 (BLUE)
AFRS Spotlight Bands 320

March 30, 1944 (Thu)

The band opened at the Riverside Theatre, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for a one-week engagement ending Wednesday, April 5, 1944. "In a terrific week, Tommy Dorsey's ork with Gene Krupa as special attraction broke all existing house records. Although it was business-killing Holy Week, the band grossed \$33,658, beating Spike Jones' previous house record of \$24,000.¹⁷

April 1944

G M C

TD GIVES KRUPA EQUAL BILLING SANS CONTRACT

New York, April 1 – Although Gene Krupa is getting equal billing with Tommy Dorsey on the ork's tour, it's strictly a matter between the two. Nothing in their MCA contract calls for the drummer's name appearing in the same size type. In a field where the green-eyed god spoils a lot of nice guys, it's refreshing to hear Dorsey admit that there are usually more Krupa than TD fans hanging around the autograph entrance. He's happy about the whole thing and says he gets a kick out the Krupa following.¹⁸

¹⁷ The Billboard, April 22, 1944, p. 12

¹⁸ The Billboard, April 8, 1944, p. 12

April 3, 1944 (Mon)

Tommy Dorsey's manager Leonard Vannerson was inducted into the Navy.

April 7, 1944 (Fri) 9:30 - 9:55 pm (Unidentified Venue)
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 485 (BLUE)
AFRS Spotlight Bands 330

Dubbed AFRS Open, Song Of India, I Dream Of You (BA), You're Driving Me Crazy (TS), Hawaiian War Chant, The Eyes And Ears Of The World, Dubbed AFRS Close

April 8, 1944 (Sat)

The band opened a three-day Easter weekend engagement at the Steel Pier, Atlantic City, New Jersey.¹⁹

During the spring of 1944, Capt. Robert Vincent, chief of the Army V-Disc program, made arrangements with the Coca Cola Company to have one of its "Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands" programs broadcast from Carnegie Hall in New York as a "V-Disc Program." The date scheduled was Monday, April 17, 1944, with Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra and guest vocalists Morton Downey and Georgia Gibbs (Freda Gibson). Downey's network radio program was sponsored by Coca Cola. The entire program and rehearsal were recorded by the V-Disc group and some of the selections were issued on V-Disc.²⁰

April 12, 1944 (Wed)
The Armory
Allentown, Pennsylvania
(Dance)²¹

G M C

April 14, 1944 (Fri)

Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra opened a two-week engagement at Frank Dailey's Terrace Room, Newark, New Jersey.²²

TOMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Trumpets: Pete Candoli, Salvatore "Sal" LaPertche, Dale Pearce, George Seaberg;
Trombones: TD, Walter Benson, Tex Satterwhite, Tommy Pederson; Reeds: Boniface "Buddy" De Franco (clt & as), Sid Cooper (as), Al Klink, Gail Curtis (ts), Bruce Branson (bs); Strings: Leonard Atkins, Alex Beller, Bernard Tinterow and four others (violin); Viola and Cello Unidentified; Rhythm: Michael "Dodo" Mamarosa (p), Dennis Sandole (g), Sid Block (b), Gene Krupa (d); Vocalists: Bob Allen, The Sentimentalists; Arranger: Sy Oliver.

April 17, 1944 (Mon)
Carnegie Hall, New York

¹⁹ The Billboard, March 25, 1944, p. 50

²⁰ Sears, V-Discs, p. 221

²¹ Variety, March 22, 1944, p. 37

²² The Billboard, February 26, 1944, p. 16

Coca Cola Spotlight Bands Rehearsal

Michael Roy, announcer

Tommy Dorsey, host

Morton Downey and Georgia Gibbs, guests

V-Disc Recordings

VP 622 - D4TC-127

V-Disc 206-B (I release)

AND SO LITTLE TIME

(Bill Kenny)

Vocal refrain by Morton Downey

VP 622 - D4TC-127

V-Disc 206-B (I release)

PRETTY KITTY BLUE EYES

(Vic Mizzy-Mann Curtis)

Vocal refrain by Morton Downey

VP 623 - D4TC-128

V-Disc 206-A (I release)

PARAMOUNT ON PARADE

(THE EYES AND EARS OF THE WORLD)

(Elsie Janis-Jack King)

Sy Oliver arrangement

G M C

VP 625 - unknown

V-Disc 220-B (I release)

NOT SO QUIET PLEASE

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

Spoken Introduction By Gene Krupa

VP-626 - unknown

V-Disc 220-A (I release)

THE MINOR GOES A MUGGIN'

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

VP-627 – XP 33503

V-Disc 227-A, (J release), Navy 7-A (A release)

TESS'S TORCH SONG (I HAD A MAN)

(Ted Koehler-Harold Arlen)

Vocal refrain by Georgia Gibbs

VP 632 – XP 33566
V-Disc 227-B (J release), Navy 7-B (A release)
IRRESISTIBLE YOU
(From the MGM Film “Broadway Rhythm”)
(Gene DePaul–Don Raye)
Vocal refrain by Bob Allen and the Sentimentalists

VP 638 – D4TC-143
V-Disc 222-A (J release), Navy 2-A (A release)
WAGON WHEELS
(Peter DeRose-Billy Hill)
Sy Oliver arrangement

VP 651 – D4TC-153
V-Disc 222-B (J release), Navy 2-B (A release)
TD CHANT
(HAWAIIAN WAR CHANT) (TA-HU-WA-HU-WAI)
(Johnny Noble-Prince Leleiohoku)
Deane Kinkaid arrangement

Unissued
SONG OF INDIA
(Nikolai Andreyevich Rimsky-Korsakov)

Commercial Release

CD: **Collector’s Choice CC-35962**

Paramount On Parade, The Minor Goes A Muggin,’ Tess’s Torch Song, Irresistible You, Wagon Wheels, TD Chant

Two of the Carnegie Hall rehearsal V-Disc recordings were used for the broadcast, “The Minor Goes a Muggin’” and “And So Little Time.” “Tess’s Torch Song” was mastered April 19, 1944 and “Irresistible You” was mastered April 28, 1944.

April 17, 1944 (Mon) 9:30 - 9:55 pm
Carnegie Hall, New York
Coca Cola Spotlight Bands 493 (Blue) (WJZ)
AFRS Spotlight Bands 338 (SS 4-18-12)
Michael Roy, announcer
Tommy Dorsey, host
Morton Downey and Georgia Gibbs, guests

BLUE-32, SSRH-165-1

Coca Cola Signature (open), IGSOY (theme), The Minor Goes a Muggin,’ I Dream of You (BA), Milkman, Keep Those Bottles Quiet (GG), I Never Knew (TS), Coca Cola Signature, And So Little Time (MD), Song of India, Loser Weepers, IGSOY (TD theme), Coca Cola Signature (close)



G M C
Spotlight Bands Broadcast



TD and Gene Krupa Onstage, Paramount Theatre, December 1943

V-Disc Recordings

Unissued

I DREAM OF YOU (MORE THAN YOU DREAM I DO)

(Marjorie Goetschius-Edna Osser)

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

VP 627-XP 33503

V-Disc 227-A (J release), Navy 7-A (A release)

MILKMAN, KEEP THOSE BOTTLES QUIET

(From the MGM Film "Broadway Rhythm")

(Gene DePaul-Don Raye)

Vocal refrain by Georgia Gibbs

VP 627-XP 33503

V-Disc 227-B (J release), Navy 7-B (A release)

I NEVER KNEW

(Ted Fio Rito-Gus Kahn)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

J 581 - ND8TC-4031 / J 581 - USS 1029

V-Disc 860-A (BBB release)

Dubbed January 9, 1948 from V-Disc 227-B

I NEVER KNEW

(Ted Fio Rito-Gus Kahn)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

J-540 - USS 101

J 540 ND7TC 1444

V-Disc 851-A, AFRS P-104

(AAA Release)

SONG OF INDIA

(Rimsky-Korsakov)

Spoken Introduction by Tommy Dorsey

Dubbed November 3, 1947

"This is Tommy Dorsey. I'd like to congratulate V-Discs on their triple A celebration. I want to add my own triple A endorsement of the fine music they've been sending out to entertain members of our Armed Forces all over the world. Now here's a number by our band we hope you all enjoy."

VP 626 - unknown

V-Disc 220-A (I release), AFRS P-104

LOSERS WEEPERS

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

AFRS

BML P-104

The Minor Goes A Muggin', I Dream Of You,
Losers Weepers

Song of India,

Commercial Releases

CD: **HEP CD-40**

Complete Program

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35962**

Milkman, Keep Those Bottles Quiet, I Never Knew, Song Of India, Losers Weepers

The V-Disc 860-A release of "I Never Knew (I Could Love Anybody)" was dubbed from V-Disc 227-B on 9 January 9, 1948. Additional matrices for this item are J 581 - ND8TC, none and J 581 - USS 1029. Additional matrices for "Song of India" are J 540 - ND7TC 1444 and none - J 540 USS 1011. V-Disc 851 ("Song of India") wasn't released until late 1947.²³

April 22, 1944 (Sat) 5:00 - 5:30 pm
Frank Dailey's Terrace Room, Newark, New Jersey
(WOR) (Local Sustaining Broadcast)

April 23, 1944 (Sun) 12:30 - 1:00 am
Frank Dailey's Terrace Room, Newark, New Jersey
(Mutual) (WOR) (Sustaining)

April 23, 1944 (Sun) 7:30 - 8:00 pm
NBC Radio City, New York
Fitch Bandwagon (NBC) (KFI)

April 24, 1944 (Mon) 9:30 - 9:55 pm
Naval Air Station, Atlantic City, New Jersey
Coca Cola Spotlight Bands 499 (Blue) (WFIL)
(CCSB Announcer Unidentified)

AFRS Spotlight Bands 344 (SS 4-25-?)

B-D8-3, AFRS-493

Dubbed AFRS Open, Waltz Theme (partial), Opus One, This I Love Above All (BA), Wagon Wheels, I Got Rhythm (GK, dr solo), Swing High, Waltz Theme (partial), Dubbed AFRS Close

²³ Sears, V-Discs, p. 237

Selections from this broadcast were probably used for AFRS Spotlight Bands (Navy) 17E (SS-4-25-3).

“Opus One” was used as filler for AFRS ONS-218.

April 27, 1944 (Thu)

Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra completed their engagement at the Terrace Room and traveled to Chicago, Illinois.

April 28, 1944 (Fri)

Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra opened at the College Inn of the Hotel Sherman in Chicago, Ill. The engagement ran through May 18, 1944.²⁴

Personnel

Bonnie Lou Williams, vocalist, added. Williams was a West Coast discovery of Johnny Mercer.²⁵

April 29, 1944 (Sat), 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

April 30, 1944 (Sun), 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 1944

TOMMY DORSEY BALLROOM PLANS CENTERS ON COAST

Hollywood, May 1 – Bandleader Tommy Dorsey may soon enter the ballroom operating field. With Al Yohe relinquishing a hold on the Palisades, formerly La Monica, on the pier at Santa Monica, it is reported Dorsey is interested. Yohe closed after two weeks of a six-week's run with Tommy Reynolds. Since he closed, a liquor license has been granted and the bar is now in operation. Several bandleaders have had spokesmen approach Walter D. Newcomb, Jr. with propositions to take over the operations of the ballroom. One of these was Abe Lyman, but Dorsey is the first to advance to the point of doing something. Dorsey is planning to send Arthur Michaud from the east to look over the property and discuss a deal with Newcomb. Michaud is to leave for the coast as soon as transportation can be arranged.²⁶

²⁴ Chicago Tribune, April 29, 1944, p. 15

²⁵ Sears, V-Discs, p. 225

²⁶ The Billboard, May 6, 1944, p. 12

May 1, 1944 (Mon) 8:30 - 8:55 pm
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 505 (Blue)
AFRS Spotlight Bands 350 (SS 5-1-?)

May 1, 1944 (Mon) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 2, 1944 (Tue) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 3, 1944 (Wed) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 4, 1944 (Thu) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 5, 1944 (Fri) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 6, 1944 (Sat) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 7, 1944 (Sun) 12:30 - 1:00 a. m
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 8, 1944 (Mon) 8:30 - 8:55 pm
Naval Construction Battalion ("Seabee") Warehouse, Joliet, Illinois
Coca Cola Spotlight Bands 511 (Blue) (WENR)
Wayne Griffin, announcer

AFRS Spotlight Bands 356

AFRS-654

Dubbed AFRS Open, Somebody Loves Me (TS), I Dream of You (BA), The Minor Goes A Muggin,' When They Ask About You (BW), Liza (All The Clouds'll Roll Away), Dubbed AFRS Close

May 1-11, 1944 (Undated)
V-Disc Recording Session
NBC Studios, Merchandise Mart, Chicago

GENE KRUPA TRIO

Gene Krupa (d), Dodo Mamarosa (p), Buddy DeFranco (cl)

VP 660 – XP-33579

V-Disc 253-B (K release), Navy 33-B (B release)

LIZA (ALL THE CLOUDS'LL ROLL AWAY)

(Ira Gershwin-George Gershwin-Gus Kahn)

Spoken Introduction By Gene Krupa

VP 660 – XP-33579

V-Disc 253-B (K release), Navy 33-B (B release)

HODGE PODGE

(Duke Ellington-Johnny Hodges)

Mastered May 12, 1944

May 9, 1944 (Tue) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 10, 1944 (Wed) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 11, 1944 (Thu) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 12, 1944 (Fri) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

T. DORSEY, WEITMAN SETTling DATE SNAG

“Situation between Tommy Dorsey and the Paramount Theatre, N. Y. over his scheduled shift to the opposition Capitol Theatre N. Y., despite a commitment still to be fulfilled at the Paramount is being settled. Dorsey will probably work the Capitol in September, return to the Paramount for his next Broadway date, then go back to the Capitol, to which he was optioned recently for two more appearances. three in all. Paramount had taken its case re: Dorsey to the American Federation of Musicians. The AFM tossed, the situation right back at the Paramount, telling Bob Weitman, the theatre's managing director, he would have to get together with Dorsey and Metro straighten it all out. This occurred last week.”²⁷

²⁷ Variety, May 10. 1944. p. 27

VICTOR, COLUMBIA ROYALTIES INCREASED DESPITE DISC BAN; T. DORSEY'S
57G FOR 1/4

"Royalty payments to bands and artists on RCA-Victor and Columbia records rosters have been steadily increasing despite the fact these two companies didn't settle with James C. Petrillo and none of their artists has made a new record in more than a year and a half. Tommy Dorsey, for example, drew a check from Victor last week for first-quarter sales that experienced record men refuse to believe. It was for approximately \$57,000." Victor and Columbia have made some other substantial royalty payments in the past year. Harry James drew approximately \$160,000 from Columbia for all of 1942 and Captain Glenn Miller, who has been in the Army for almost two years, is said to have received about the same amount from Victor for the same period.²⁸

May 12, 1944 (Fri)
Lang-Worth Transcription Recording Session
RCA Studios
445 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois

GMA S-264

YTC 1581

I'M GETTING' SENTIMENTAL OVER YOU

(Tommy Dorsey's Signature Theme)

(Ned Washington-George Bassman)

Noni Bernardi arrangement

G M C

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 76 (USA)
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 267, CI 73 (USA)
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005 (USA)**
CD: Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1581

WAGON WHEELS

(Billy Hill-Peter DeRose)

Sy Oliver arrangement

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 76 (USA)
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 114, CI-68A (USA)
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005 (USA)**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

²⁸ Variety, May 10, 1944, p. 27

YTC 1581

DO NOTHING 'TILL YOU HEAR FROM ME

(Duke Ellington-Bob Russell)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams

GMA S-264

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 76 (USA)
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 117, CI 69 (USA)
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005 (USA)**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA)

GMA S-264

YTC 1581

ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET

(Dorothy Fields-Jimmy McHugh)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

Sy Oliver arrangement

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 76
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 117, CI 69A
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1582

YOU BROUGHT A NEW KIND OF LOVE TO ME

(Sammy Fain-Irving Kahal-Pierre Norman Connor)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams

GMA S-264

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 82
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 100, LNY 448, "Collector's Items" CI 67A
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA)

YTC 1582

I NEVER KNEW

(Tom Pitts-Ray Egan-Roy K. Marsh)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

GMA S-264

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 82
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 100, LNY 448, LWT 82, "Collector's Items" CI 67A
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1582

YOU'RE DRIVING ME CRAZY (WHAT DID I DO?)

(Walter Donaldson)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 82
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 267, CI 73A
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

G M C

YTC 1582

THE MINOR GOES A MUGGIN'

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth AS 82
8" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1066, CI-72B
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1583

OPUS NO. 1

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1020
8" 33: Lang Worth DL 166, CI 71A
12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**
CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1583

I'M IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE (WHO IS NOT IN LOVE WITH ME)

(Lew Marcus)

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1020

8" 33: Lang Worth DL 139, CI-70A

12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**

CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1583

WHEN YOU PUT ON THAT OLD BLUE SUIT AGAIN

(Robert Sour-Floria West-Gordon Andrews)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT-1020

GMA S-264

YTC 1583

AMOR

(Ricardo Lopez Mendez-Gabriel Ruiz)

English language lyric by Sunny Skylar

Alternative English language lyric by Norman Newell

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1020

8" 33: Lang Worth CI 71B

12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**

CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1584

SWING HIGH

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

Issues

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1040

8" 33: Lang Worth DL 166, CI 71

12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**

CD: Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC 1584

I DREAM OF YOU

(Marjorie Goetschius-Edna Osser)

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1040

8" 33: Lang Worth DL 139

GMA S-264

YTC 1584

WELL, GIT IT!

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1040

8" 33: Lang Worth DL 166, CI 71A

12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**

CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

GMA S-264

YTC-1584

LOSERS WEEPERS

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

G M C

16" 33: Lang Worth LWT 1040

8" 33: Lang Worth DL 192, LNY 452, "Collector's Items" CI 72A

12" 33: **20th Century Fox TFM 1005**

CD: Circle CCD-160 (USA), Jasmine JUCD-539 (England)

May 14, 1944 (Sun) 12:30-1:00 am, College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 15, 1944 (Mon) 8:30 - 8:55 pm

Naval Hospital, Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Illinois

Coca Cola Spotlight Bands 517 (Blue) (WENR)

AFRS Spotlight Bands 362

Wayne Griffin, announcer

B-D10-1, BLUE-55

CCSB Open, IGSOY (theme), It's Love. Love, Love (TS), This Above All (BA), Song of India, Do Nothin' Till You Hear From Me (BLW), Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), I Dream of You (BA), Losers Weepers, IGSOY (theme), CCSB Close

AFRS-653

Dubbed AFRS Open, It's Love. Love, Love (TS), Song of India, Do Nothin' Till You Hear From Me (BLW), Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), Losers Weepers, Dubbed AFRS Close

G M C

TD LIKELY FITCH REPLACEMENT

Hollywood, May 16 – The Fitch Bandwagon (Sundays at 7:30 pm EWT on NBC) is expected to name Tommy Dorsey as summer replacement. The starting date is expected to be June 18. The booking of Dorsey for the summer when up and coming bands are usually featured is viewed as a move to bolster the strength of the program.²⁹

May 17, 1944 (Wed) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 18, 1944 (Thu) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 18, 1944

Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra completed their engagement at the College Inn of the Hotel Sherman in Chicago.

May 19, 1944 (Fri) 12:30 - 1:00 am
College Inn, Hotel Sherman, Chicago
(WENR) (Sustaining)

May 19, 1944 (Fri)

The band opened at the new Downtown Theatre in Detroit, Michigan. Industrialist, aviator and filmmaker Howard Hughes had recently purchased and refurbished the site. The engagement was through Thursday, May 25, 1944. The film during the Detroit run was "Detective Kitty O'Day."³⁰

May 24, 1944 (Wed)

Rich On Retainer By T. Dorsey While Idle

"Tommy Dorsey is keeping Buddy Rich on salary until Rich takes Gene Krupa's place with that band. Rich was about to join Dorsey last week at the beginning of the latter's concert-dance tour, when Krupa was to have begun work on his own band. However, it was decided that Krupa should remain through the one-night route. Rich is in N. Y. meanwhile. He played with Charlie Spivak's band part of the first show at the Paramount Theatre, N. Y., last Friday (26)."³¹

²⁹ Variety, May 17, 1944, p. 26

³⁰ Variety, May 31, 1944, p. 25

³¹ Variety, May 31, 1941, p. 41

May 27, 1944 (Sat) Chicago Stadium, Chicago, Illinois
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 528 (Blue) (WENR)

Also Used For Standby Program

November 25, 1944 (Sat)
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 684 (Blue)
Wayne Griffin, announcer

BLUE-33

CCSB Open, Waltz Theme (partial), Song of India, I Dream Of You (BA), The Minor Goes a Muggin,' CCSB Announcement, On The Sunny Side Of The Street (TS), Coke Talk "Australia" and "Brazil," Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), This I Love Above All (BA), Spotlight Salute, Well, Git It! (to close) (incomplete)

AFRS Spotlight Bands 373
Also Used For Standby Program
AFRS Spotlight Bands 529 (SS 11-27-12)

AFRS-494

Dubbed AFRS Open, Song of India, I Dream of You (BA), The Minor Goes a Muggin, On The Sunny Side of the Street (TS), Dubbed AFRS Close

The titles used for the November 1944 transcription are exactly the same performances as the May 1944 program. Tommy Dorsey's spoken introduction about "pinch hitting" for another band is deleted from the AFRS transcription. Wayne Griffin's spoken introductions are identical.

May 28, 1944 (Sun) Trianon Ballroom, Toledo, Ohio (Dance)

Following their appearance in Toledo, Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra embarked on a series of 12 one-night stands. For the tour, Dorsey would expand his 24-member band to 42 pieces, adding 18 strings.³² The strings were from the Minneapolis (Minnesota) Symphony.³³

May 30, 1944 (Tue)
Evansville, Indiana

May 31, 1944 (Wed)
Louisville, Kentucky

³² The Billboard, May 27, 1944, p. 13

³³ Variety, May 24, 1944

June 1944

June 1, 1944 (Thu)
St. Louis, Missouri

June 2, 1944 (Fri)
Kansas City, Missouri

June 3, 1944 (Sat)
Tulsa, Oklahoma

June 4, 1944 (Sun)
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

June 6, 1944 (Tue)
Will Rogers Memorial Auditorium, Fort Worth, Texas (Concert)

June 6, 1944 (Tue)
Lake Worth Casino, Fort Worth, Texas (Dance)

June 7, 1944 (Wed)
Shreveport, Louisiana

T. DORSEY TO "ALL TIME"

"Tommy Dorsey's orchestra, which had been set as the summer replacement for the Fitch Bandwagon, has been released from that commitment and has been shifted to Lucky Strike sponsorship. He replaces the "All Time Hit Parade" in the Sunday 7-7:30 pm slot on NBC June 18, While Dorsey will be moved out of that Sunday evening period in the fall; when Jack Benny returns, his hookup with Luckies is not in the nature of a summer fill-in. His contract is for the usual 13 weeks with options at an undisclosed sum. Dorsey once before had negotiations to air for American Tobacco, but they fell through, Peculiarly enough, the idea then was to replace the standard tune edition of the "Hit Parade."³⁴

June 8, 1944 (Thu)
Dallas, Texas

June 9, 1944 (Fri)
All University Dance, Gregory Gym, University of Texas, Austin, Texas³⁵ (Dance)

³⁴ Variety, June 7, 1944, p. 26

³⁵ Austin American-Statesman, June 6, 1944

SOME LIKE IT HOT

Tommy Dorsey Due In Town This Weekend³⁶

"Saturday, June 10, will be a great day for you hep cats. That Sentimental Gentleman, Tommy Dorsey, is comin' to town. He'll be at City Auditorium at 7:15 pm to give out with the jive in concert form, but the big event will be the dance at the Coliseum, starting at 9:15 pm and finishing up at 1:00 am. Imagine dancing for 2 and a half hours to the music of one of America's smoothest dance bands! No; that ain't all – in case dancing isn't one of your accomplishments, you can just sit back and listen to Gene Krupa beatin' it out on the drums, and to Bob Allen, Bonnie Lou Williams and the Four Sentimentalists while they render the vocals."

June 10, 1944 (Sat) 7:15 - 8:30 pm
City Auditorium, Houston, Texas
(Concert)

June 10, 1944 (Sat) 9:15 pm – 1:00 am,
Sam Houston Coliseum, Houston, Texas
(Dance)

June 11, 1944 (Sun)
San Antonio, Texas
Municipal Auditorium
(Concert and Dance)

"Tommy Dorsey's orchestra is being sponsored on a concert and dance here (San Antonio) June 11 by the Symphony Society, which is underwriting the leader's \$3,500 guarantee (against percentage). Whatever profits are derived from the sale will be used to help finance the San Antonio Symphony, Dorsey will play at the Municipal Auditorium."³⁷

This was Gene Krupa's final performance with the band.

The band traveled to Los Angeles.

BUDDY RICH SIGNS 'IF AND WHEN' CONTRACT WITH MCA

"Buddy Rich, drummer, replacing Gene Krupa with Tommy Dorsey's orchestra, apparently intends having his own band in the future. He signed a management contract with Music Corp. of America before leaving N. Y. last week to join Dorsey in California. Rich was intent on a band of his own after being released from the Marines recently. He was being steered by Lou Levy, manager of the Andrews Sisters. However, Dorsey diverted him with a substantial salary offer, which, combined with the difficulties of organizing a new band now, eliminated all thoughts in that direction."³⁸

Personnel

Buddy Rich (d) replaces Krupa

³⁶ The Thresher, Rice Institute, Houston, June 8, 1944

³⁷ Variety, June 7, 1944, p. 32

³⁸ Variety, June 14, 1944, p. 35

DORSEY'S DATE TO OPPOSE PALLADIUM

"Tommy Dorsey's orchestra has been booked into the Casino Gardens, Santa Monica, Cal., for three days, June 29-July 1, This date will put Dorsey into opposition with the Palladium Ballroom, about 10 miles away in Hollywood. Casino has a capacity of between 6,000-8,000 people and is near the Palisades, which Dorsey contemplated buying recently. Strategy behind the leader's thought of buying the Palisades and probably ditto behind the Casino date, even for only three days, is to provide opposition to the Palladium, which he refuses to play until he gets his price. He wants \$8,500.³⁹

ALL TIME HIT PARADE

Tommy Dorsey signed with the American Tobacco Company and their agency Foot, Cone and Belding for an initial 13-week weekly appearance by the band on "Your All Time Hit Parade," which would be broadcast from Hollywood over NBC Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm EWT. The program had been broadcast for 17 weeks Friday at 8:30 pm EWT featuring Ed Gardner and Company with singer Lu Lu Barnes and Mark Warnow's studio orchestra from New York. On June 11, 1944, the program moved to the Sunday time period. That evening, Jack Benny, Mary Livingstone and Eddie "Rochester" Anderson were guests from Hollywood. At the end of the broadcast, announcers Basil Ruysdael and Del Sharbutt mentioned Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra would be appearing each week thereafter at the same time and Dorsey's guest for his first program would be Bing Crosby. The American Tobacco Company also sponsored "Your Hit Parade" starring Frank Sinatra on CBS.

June 18, 1944 (Sun) NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

Commercial Release

CD: **HEP CD-40**

Somebody Loves Me, Small Fry, Pennies From Heaven

³⁹ Variety, June 14, 1944, p. 36

June 18, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

“Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” (NBC) (KFI)

NBC 4188 (2), 40377/78, RCA MT 801 (2)

LOC RWA 6551 A1-2, RWB 961 A4 (Part 2, 15:00)

Bill Foreman and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Bing Crosby, guest

NBC-399

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Somebody Loves Me (TS), Small Fry (BC), Long Ago and Far Away (BW), I Know That You Know, I'll Never Smile Again (BA-TS), Louise (BC); Medley: Margie, Song of India, Marie (BA-Band), IGSOY, Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

This was the first Tommy Dorsey “All Time Hit Parade” broadcast.

V-Disc Recordings

VP 787–D4TC 239

V-Disc 282-A (M release), Navy 62-A (D release)

SOMEBODY LOVES ME

(Buddy DeSylva-George Gershwin)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

VP 773–D4TC 231

V-Disc 269-A (L release), Navy 49-A (C release)

SMALL FRY

(Frank Loesser-Hoagy Carmichael)

Vocal refrain by Bing Crosby

VP 786–D4TC 238

V-Disc 287-A (M release), Navy 67-A (D release)

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

(Johnny Burke-Arthur Johnston)

Vocal refrain by Bing Crosby

AFRS

BML P-202

Pennies From Heaven

Commercial Release

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

Somebody Loves Me, Small Fry, Pennies From Heaven

TOMMY DORSEY EYES OVER \$1,000,000 GROSS FOR '44, BAND RECORD

"At its present earning rate, "which isn't likely to fall off much for the rest of the year, according to contracts already consummated. Tommy Dorsey's orchestra will gross well over \$1,000,000 in 1944. This would be approximately \$300,000 higher than Dorsey has ever reached before and, if achieved, will probably be the highest gross ever amassed by a pop-style dance band."⁴⁰

CASINO GARDENS

After arriving in California, Tommy Dorsey, his brother Jimmy, accompanied by Woody Herman and Phil Harris met with Bimie Cohen, owner of the Casino Gardens Ballroom, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California, at the offices of MCA to propose an agreement where a group led by the Dorseys and including several bandleaders and possibly another ballroom operator would purchase the ballroom.⁴¹ It is not hard to understand the motivation for the bandleaders to own their own venue given the traditionally contentious relationships that often existed between bandleaders and ballroom operators. The purchase of Casino Gardens was announced in the trades Monday, June 26, 1944.⁴² Hal McIntyre was appearing at Casino Gardens when the deal was made public. The deal created a minor furor among ballroom operators and especially the Hollywood Palladium. Tense business relations with the Sunset Boulevard venue had in part motivated the Dorseys and their partners to invest in their own property. Ironically, Jimmy Dorsey was appearing at the Palladium when the Casino Gardens deal was announced.⁴³ It would shortly be revealed that the partners included bandleader Harry James and ballroom operator Wayne Dailard (Pacific Square, San Diego).

⁴⁰ Variety, June 21, 1944, p. 1

⁴¹ Variety, June 21, 1944, p. 42

⁴² Variety, June 28, 1944, p. 48

⁴³ Variety, July 5, 1944, p. 30

June 25, 1944 (Sun)
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

V-Disc Recording

VP 804 - D4TC-251
V-Disc 579-B (BB release)
I NEVER CRIED SO MUCH (IN ALL MY LIFE)
(From the 20th Century-Fox Film "Smiling Along")
(Will Haines-Jimmy Harper)
Vocal refrain by Gracie Fields

AFRS G. I. Journal 50 (H-19-50) was recorded June 30, 1944. Gracie Fields does not appear on the AHP program, of June 25, 1944. An explanation for this discrepancy is that Gracie Fields was the scheduled guest, recorded the V-Disc at the rehearsal for the broadcast, but did not appear on the broadcast itself.

June 25, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)

NBC 41888/9; 53483/4
LOC RWA 6361 A3-4, RWB 1356 A4-B1
Bill Foreman and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Kay Kyser, Sully Mason and Mervin Brogue (Ish Kabibble), guests

NBC-170

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Top Hat, White Tie and Tails (TS), Blue Skies (BA-Band), I'll Be Seeing You, Lucky Strike Commercial, Fine and Dandy, It Had To Be You (BW), Three Little Fishes (KK & All), Lucky Strike Commercial, Medley: The One I Love (brief), Star Dust (brief), Hallelujah (brief), Star Dust (BA-BW-TS), IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

AFRS

BML P-123 Top Hat, White Tie and Tails, It Had To Be You, Blue Skies,
Star Dust

H-19-50 Top Hat, White Tie and Tails, Blue Skies, Star Dust

AFRS Your All Time Hit Parade 37

S-184, AFRS-355

Dubbed AFRS Open, Top Hat, White Tie and Tails (TS), Blue Skies (BA-Band), I'll Be Seeing You, Fine and Dandy, It Had To Be You (BW), Three Little Fishes (KK & All), Star Dust (BA-BW-TS), Unidentified Filler, Dubbed AFRS Close
June 26, 1944 (Mon)

Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey purchased Casino Gardens Ballroom, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California.

June 29, 1944 (Thu)

The band opened at Casino Gardens for a three-day weekend engagement.

June 30, 1944 (Fri) NBC Hollywood
"G. I. Journal" 50 (AFRS)

AFRS H-19-50

Harry Mitchell, announcer

Jack Carson, host

AFRS-292

Includes: Top Hat, White Tie and Tails (TS), Star Dust (BA-BW-TS) and Blue Skies (BA-Band), copied from the NBC broadcast of June 25, 1944.

July 1944

July 2, 1944 (Sun)

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

Frances Langford, guest

G M C

Commercial Releases

CD: **HEP-CD-39**

I'll Be Seeing You, As Time Goes By, Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wah-Hu-Wai)

CD: **HEP CD-40**

I'm In The Mood For Love, Indian Summer



NBC Radio City Hollywood



KFI and KECA, Los Angeles

July 2, 1944 (Sun) 4:00-4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)

NBC 40912/3; 42553/4

LOC RWA 6272 A1-2, RWB 1407 B2-3

Bill Foreman and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Frances Langford, guest

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), IGSOY (theme), Heat Wave (TS), Indian Summer (BA), I'm in the Mood for Love (FL), I'll Be Seeing You (BA), As Time Goes By (FL), Lucky Day, Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recordings

VP 787-D4TC 239

V-Disc 282-A (M release), Navy 62-A (D release),

INDIAN SUMMER

(Victor Herbert)

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

VP 786-D4TC 238

V-Disc 287-A (M release), Navy 67-A (D release)

I'M IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE

(Dorothy Fields-Jimmy McHugh)

Vocal refrain by Frances Langford``

AFRS

BML P-123

Heat Wave

BML P-145

Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai)

BML P-256

Indian Summer

H-7-106/134

Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai)

H-19-51

Heat Wave, Indian Summer, Hawaiian War Chant
(Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu Wai)

Commercial Release

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

Indian Summer

AFRS Your All Time Hit Parade 38

M-128-4, S-24, S-185, AFRS-346

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Heat Wave (TS), Song of India, Indian Summer (BA), I'm in the Mood for Love (FL), I've Found a New Baby, I Never Knew (I Could Love Anybody) (TS), The World is Waiting for the Sunrise, I Got Rhythm, As Time Goes By (brief), As Time Goes By (FL), Once in a While (brief), Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), (By the) Sleepy Lagoon (Partial), AFRS Dubbed Close

Commercial Release

12" 33: **Sunbeam SB-220**

IGSOY (theme), Heat Wave, I'll Be Seeing You, As Time Goes By

"Song of India" and "I've Found A New Baby" were dubbed from AFRS TDS September 8, 1943. "I Never Knew (I Could Love Anybody)" was dubbed from April 23, 1944. "The World is Waiting for the Sunrise" and "I Got Rhythm" are taken from AFRS TDS September 1, 1943.

July 6, 1944 (Thu) 6:00 – 6:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

The Kraft Music Hall (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWB 1463 A1-2

Ken Carpenter, announcer

Bing Crosby, host

John Scott Trotter and his Orchestra

Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, guests

G M C

NBC-126

Including Sandman and Exactly Like You (with TD and JD)

July 7, 1944 (Fri)

NBC Hollywood

"G. I. Journal" 51 (AFRS)

AFRS H-19-51

Harry Mitchell, announcer

Jack Carson, host

AFRS-942

Includes: Heat Wave (TS), Indian Summer (BA) and Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu Wai) copied from the NBC broadcast of July 2, 1944.

July 9, 1944 (Sun) NBC Hollywood, "Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal
Bob Burns and Cass Daley, guests

July 9, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)
LOC RWB 1424 A4-B1
Bill Foreman and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Bob Burns and Cass Dailey, guests

B-465-1, NBC-171

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Margie (TS), Please Don't Talk About Me When I'm Gone (CD), I'll Be Seeing You (BA), Whispering (BW), You Are My Sunshine (CD-BB-TS), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme); Medley: Mandy (Make Up Your Mind) (brief), Dark Eyes (Black Eyes) (brief), Song of India (brief); Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recordings

VP 1289 - D5TC 253
V-Disc 477-A (V release), Navy 257-A (M release),
VP 804 - D4TC 251

V-Disc 579-B (BB release)

PLEASE DON'T TALK ABOUT ME WHEN I'M GONE
(Sam H. Stept-Sidney Clare-Bee Palmer)
Vocal refrain by Cass Daley

This is the only known example of a reissued V-Disc with lower master and serial numbers than the original version.⁴⁴

Unissued

WHISPERING

(Malvin Schonberger-John Schonberger)
(Possible co-lyricist Richard Coburn)
Bonnie Lou Williams, vocal

"Whispering was used as filler for AFRS AHP 47.

AFRS

BML P-162 Margie

⁴⁴ Sears, V-Discs, p. 228

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 39

(SS 7-17-1/2)

AFRS-347

Dubbed AFRS Open (Lucky Day), IGSOY (theme), Margie (TS), Please Don't Talk About Me When I'm Gone (CD), I'll Be Seeing You (BA), Whispering (BW), You Are My Sunshine (CD-BB-TS), Medley: Mandy (Make Up Your Mind) (brief), Dark Eyes (Black Eyes) (brief), Song of India (brief), Dubbed AFRS Close

July 16, 1944 (Sun)

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Rudy Vallee, guest

Commercial Releases

CD: **HEP CD-40**

Sweet and Lovely

July 16, 1944 (Sun) 4:00-4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWA 6272 B3-4, RWB 2465 B3-4

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Rudy Vallee, guest

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), I Never Knew (TS), Deep Night (RV-Band), I'll Be Seeing You (BLW), Sweet and Lovely (BA), Maine Stein Song (RV), (By The) Sleepy Lagoon, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recording

VP 870 – none

V-Disc 320-A (N release), Navy 100-A (E release)

SWEET AND LOVELY

(Gus Arnheim-Harry Tobias-Jules Lemare)

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

AFRS

BML P-131

H-25-436

Sweet and Lovely, (By The) Sleepy Lagoon

I Never Knew

Commercial Releases

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

Sweet and Lovely

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 40
(SS-7-24-1/2)

AFRS-348

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), I Never Knew (TS), Deep Night (RV-Band), I'll Be Seeing You (BLW), Sweet and Lovely (BA), Maine Stein Song (RV), (By The) Sleepy Lagoon, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close

July 20, 1944 (Thu)

The band started work at M-G-M for "Thrill of A Romance."⁴⁵

July 20, 1944 (Thu)
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios
Culver City, California
Soundtrack Recording Session
M-G-M Film Production "Thrill of a Romance"

SONG OF INDIA

(Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov)

Arranged and Orchestrated by Sy Oliver

CD: **Rhino R2 72721, R2 75283**

YOU DEAR

(Ralph Freed-Sammy Fain)

CD: **Rhino R2 75283**

THE GUY WITH THE SLIDE TROMBONE

(Hungarian Rhapsody)

(Franz Liszt)

The recording work for this tune was continued July 28, 1944

CD: **Rhino R2 75283**

⁴⁵ Variety, June 26, 1944

July 23, 1944 (Sun) NBC Hollywood, "Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal
Al Jolson (Asa Yoelson), guest

July 23, 1944 (Sun) 4:00-4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)
LOC RWB 1346 A1-2, RWA 6273 A1-2
Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Al Jolson (Asa Yoelson), guest

NBC-172

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Little White Lies, Ma' Blushin' Rosie (AJ), I'll Be Seeing You (TS), You Brought A New Kind Of Love To Me (BLW), April Showers (AJ), Body and Soul, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

VP 845 – D4TC-280
APRIL SHOWERS
(Buddy DeSylva-Louis Silvers)
MA BLUSHIN' ROSIE
(John Stromberg-Edgar Smith)
Vocal refrain by Al Jolson

Issues

APRIL SHOWERS

MA BLUSHIN ROSIE

12" 78 V-Disc 306-B (N Release) (USA), Navy 86-B (E Release) (USA)

YOU BROUGHT A NEW KIND OF LOVE TO ME

16" 33 AFRS BML P-256 (USA)

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 41
(SS-7-31-1/2)

AFRS-349

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Little White Lies, Ma' Blushin' Rosie (AJ), I'll Be Seeing You (TS), You Brought A New Kind Of Love To Me (BLW), April Showers (AJ), Body and Soul, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close (close),

G M C

July 28, 1944 (Fri)
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios
Culver City, California
Soundtrack Recording Session
M-G-M Film Production "Thrill of a Romance"

THE GUY WITH THE SLIDE TROMBONE
(Hungarian Rhapsody)
(Franz Liszt)

Continued from July 20, 1944

CD: **Rhino R2 75283**

July 29, 1944 (Sat)
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios
Culver City, California
Soundtrack Recording Session
M-G-M Film Production "Thrill of a Romance"

I SHOULD CARE
(Sammy Cahn-Axel Stordahl-Paul Weston)
Vocal refrain by Bob Allen and the Sentimentalists
Arranged and Orchestrated by Hugo Winterhalter

July 30, 1944 (Sun)
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal
Jose Iturbi (piano), guest

Commercial Release

CD: **HEP CD-39**

The Lamp Is Low, Boogie Woogie Etude

CD: **Rhino R2 72721, R2 75283**

July 30, 1944 (Sun) 4:00-4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)
RCA MT 1150 (Part 1), RCA Unidentified (Part 2)
RWA 6363 A4 (Part 1), RWB 1931 B2-3
Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Jose Iturbi (piano), guest

B-465-5, NBC-173

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), March of the Toys, I'm Always Chasing Rainbows (JI), Amor (BLW-TS), The Lamp Is Low (BA), Fantasy Impromptu (JI), Boogie Woogie Etude (JI), Boogie Woogie, Melody in "A" (TD solo), IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

"The Lamp is Low" was used for AFRS AHP-47

V-Disc Recordings

VP 870 -N none

THE LAMP IS LOW

(Peter DeRose-Bert Shefter)

(Adapted from Ravel's "Pavane Pour Une Infante Defunte")

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

VP 879 - D4TC 296

MELODY IN "A"

(Charles Dawes)

Arranged by Sgt. David Rose

Issues

THE LAMP IS LOW

12" 78: **V-Disc 320-A** (N release), Navy 100-A (E release) (USA)

16" 33: AFRS BML P-319 (USA)

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

MELODY IN "A"

12" 78: **V-Disc 322-A** (O release), Navy 102-A (F release) (USA)

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

MARCH OF THE TOYS

16" 33: AFRS BML P-131 (USA)

BOOGIE WOOGIE

16" 33: AFRS BML P-131 (USA), AFRS H-7-106/134 (USA), AFRS H-9-52 (USA)

AMOR

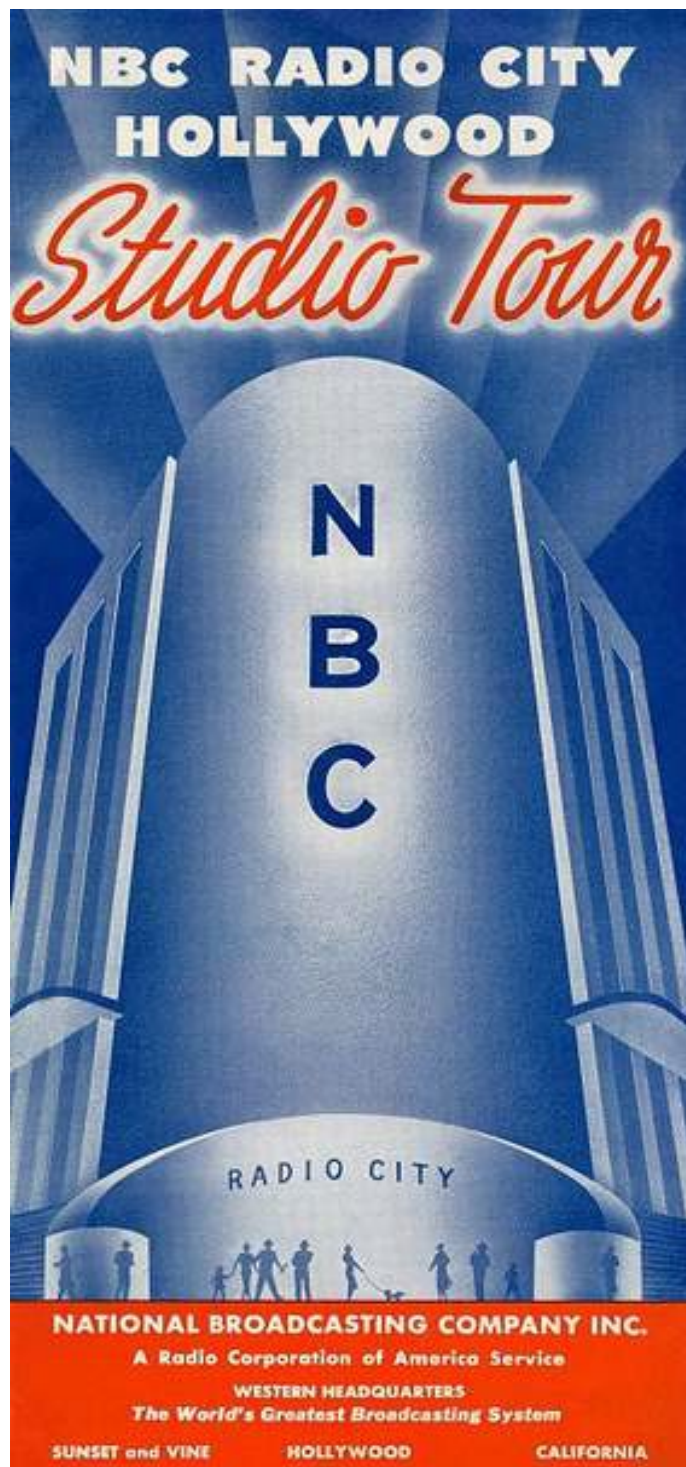
16" 33: AFRS H-7-106/134 (USA), AFRS H-25-403 (USA)

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 42

(SS 8-7-1/2)

AFRS-350

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), March of the Toys, I'm Always Chasing Rainbows (JI), Amor (BW-TS), The Lamp Is Low (BA), Fantasy Impromptu (JI), Boogie Woogie Etude (JI), Boogie Woogie, Melody in "A" (TD solo), IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close



August 1944

THE BATTLE OF THE BALCONY

Born in Fresno, California and raised in Tahiti, popular adventure star actor Jon Hall (Charles Felix Locher) was the husband of singer Frances Langford, who had appeared on the "All Time Hit Parade" program with Tommy Dorsey July 2, 1944. Hall became involved in a brawl with Tommy Dorsey, which became known in the newspapers as "the battle of the balcony." The incident, which was widely reported locally and nationally by Monday, August 7, 1944 would be sensationalized and have an immediate and probably long-term negative impact on Dorsey and his career.⁴⁶

Tommy Dorsey and his wife Pat Dane had an apartment at the luxurious Sunset Plaza, 1220 Sunset Plaza Drive, which was located just off Sunset Boulevard. TD and Dane had been socializing for hours in celebration of her 26th birthday. They and others had been drinking and invited numerous friends and acquaintances over for a nightcap party, which was winding down about 3:00 am when the brawl broke out. Hall's wife was in the South Pacific touring with Bob Hope. A jealous Dorsey apparently took offense when Hall gave Dane a goodbye hug at the front door, which in all likelihood was completely innocent but enraged TD. However, according to witnesses, Dorsey called Hall out to the second-floor balcony of the second-floor apartment and hit Hall in the nose with a bottle. A fight ensued and Dorsey wrestled Hall onto the balcony railing, threatening to push him off. Hall put his hands around Dorsey's neck and reportedly said something like "if I go I'll take you with me." Others who had been getting in their cars to leave heard the noise and came back upstairs. Pat Dane summoned their next-door neighbor for assistance. This was Allen Smiley, a protégé of alleged mob figure Benjamin "Bugsy" Seigel. Exactly what happened when Smiley entered, and the others returned is not clear. What happened was that someone violently slashed Hall multiple times around the face and neck, slicing his nose with a sharp instrument resembling a surgical knife. When the other partygoers returned upstairs, Hall drove himself to the hospital. He required 50 stitches to his face, neck and upper body and had to wear a nose guard.

Although there may have been a dozen witnesses who had not gone downstairs, none could or would remember any of the details of the incident when questioned by police. It was suggested Hall may have simply fallen and hurt himself. One report claimed Pat Dane was the attacker. Upon reflection, Jon Hall refused to press charges. However, the District Attorney charged Tommy, Pat and Allen Smiley with felonious assault. Smiley was at the time actually out on bail with Seigel because they had been busted for bookmaking. As developments unfolded over the following three months, the awkward circumstances would not prevent Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer from producing the film "Thrill of A Romance," although the situation clearly resulted in considerable embarrassment for studio chief Louis B. Mayer. "Thrill of a Romance" was the last film Dorsey would make for the studio, which had become a reliable source of continuous employment, income and publicity for the bandleader. Jon Hall and Frances Langford divorced in 1955. She re-married Ralph Evinrude and settled in her native state of Florida. Hall died in 1979 of suicide following a very excruciating bout with terminal bladder cancer.

August 6, 1944 (Sun)
NBC Hollywood

⁴⁶ Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, Variety, et. al., August, 1944

“Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” Rehearsal

Sophie Tucker, guest

Commercial Release

CD: **HEP CD-40**

Chicago

August 6, 1944 (Sun) 4:00-4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

“Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWA 6362 A1-2, RWB 2434 A3-4

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Sophie Tucker, guest

NBC-174

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Chicago (TS), Together (BW-BA), I'll Be Seeing You (TS), Wagon Wheels, Monologue (Sophie Tucker), Some of These Days (ST), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), (When Your Heart's On Fire) Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

“Chicago” was used for AFRS AHP-46.

“Together” and “Wagon Wheels” were used for AFRS AHP-48

V-Disc Recordings

VP 879 - D4TC 296

V-Disc 322-A (O release), Navy 102-A (F release)

CHICAGO

(Fred Fisher)

Vocal refrain by The Sentimentalists

Sy Olive arrangement

VP 891 - D4TC 406

V-Disc 391-A (R release), Navy 171-A (I release)

(WHEN YOUR HEART'S ON FIRE) SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

(Otto Harbach-Jerome Kern)

VP 921 – D4TC 428

Unissued

SOME OF THESE DAYS

(Shelton Brooks)

Vocal refrain by Sophie Tucker

VP 936 – D4TC 438
V-Disc 358-B (P release)
SOME OF THESE DAYS
(Shelton Brooks)
Vocal refrain by Sophie Tucker

Unissued
TOGETHER
(Buddy DeSylva-Lew Brown-Ray Henderson)
Vocal refrain by Bob Allen and Bonnie Lou Williams

Issues

WAGON WHEELS
16" 33 AFRS BML P-348 (USA),

H-7-106/134 Chicago, Smoke Gets In Your Eyes
H-12-1024 Chicago

Commercial Release

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

Chicago, Smoke Gets In Your Eyes

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 43
(SS 8-14-1/2)

AFRS-351

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Chicago (TS), Together (BW-BA), I'll Be Seeing You (TS), Wagon Wheels, Monologue (Sophie Tucker), Some of These Days (ST), (When Your Heart's On Fire) Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close (close)

August 13, 1944 (Sun)
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (Rehearsal)
Judy Garland (Frances Gumm), guest

Commercial Releases

CD: **HEP CD-39**

April In Paris, On The Sunny Side Of The Street, I May Be Wrong, What Is This Thing Called Love?

August 13, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

“Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWA 6362 A3-4, RWB 2572 A2-3

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Judy Garland (Frances Gumm), Guest

NBC-175

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), What Is This Thing Called Love? (BLW), On The Sunny Side of the Street (TS), I'll Be Seeing You (BA), April in Paris, Over the Rainbow (JG), I May Be Wrong (JG), Rose of No Man's Land, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

“On The Sunny Side Of The Street” and “April In Paris” were used for AFRS AHP-49

V-Disc Recordings

VP 886 – B 40730

V-Disc 335-A (O release), Navy 159-A (H release)

OVER THE RAINBOW

(E. Y. Harburg-Harold Arlen)

Vocal refrain by Judy Garland

Spoken Introduction by Judy Garland

I MAY BE WRONG (BUT I THINK YOU'RE WONDERFUL)

(Harry Ruskin-Henry Sullivan)

Vocal refrain by Judy Garland

“Hi fellows. I'm going to sing one of my favorite songs for you. Hope you like it.”⁴⁷

AFRS

BML P-145

On The Sunny Side Of The Street

BML P-256

April In Paris

⁴⁷ Sears, V-Discs, p. 230

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 44

(SS 8-21-1/2)

AFRS-784

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), What Is This Thing Called Love (BLW), On The Sunny Side of the Street (TS), I'll Be Seeing You (BA), April in Paris, Over the Rainbow (JG), I May Be Wrong (JG), Rose of No Man's Land, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close

August 14, 1944 (Mon), Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Culver City, California

The filming of "Thrill of A Romance" started.⁴⁸

August 20, 1944 (Sun)

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

Phil Harris, guest

Commercial Release

CD: **HEP CD-39**

Top Hat, White Tie and Tails, Lover Come Back To Me, Amor

"Top Hat, White Tie and Tails" was not used on the actual broadcast.

August 20, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWA 6678 B1-2

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Phil Harris, guest

B-465-6, NBC-176

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), I'm Nobody's Baby (BW), All the Things You Are (BA), Amor, Lucky Strike Commercial, Sweetheart of Sigma Chi (TS), Dorsey and Harris Dialogue, That's What I Like About the South (PH), Lucky Strike Commercial, Lover Come Back To Me, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

"Lover Come Back To Me" was used for AFRS AHP-49.

"Amor" was used for AFRS AHP-50.

V-Disc Recordings

VP 891 - D4TC 406

⁴⁸ Variety, August 15, 1944

V-Disc 391-A (R release), Navy 171-A (I release)

SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI

(Byron D. Stokes-F. Dudley Vernor)

VP 1289 – D5TC 253

V-Disc 477-A (V release), Navy 257-A (M release)

THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THE SOUTH

(Phil Harris)

Vocal refrain by Phil Harris

AFRS

BML P-145

Sweetheart of Sigma Chi

BML P-202

That's What I Like About The South, I'm Nobody's Baby

H-2-84/117

That's What I Like About The South

H-7-106/134

I'm Nobody's Baby

H-25-423

I'm Nobody's Baby

Commercial Release

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35962**

Sweetheart of Sigma Chi

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 45

(SS 8-28-1/2)

G M C

AFRS-353

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), I'm Nobody's Baby (BW), All the Things You Are (BA), Amor, Lucky Strike Commercial, Sweetheart of Sigma Chi (TS), Dorsey and Harris Dialogue, That's What I Like About the South (PH), Lucky Strike Commercial, Lover Come Back To Me, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close

ALL QUIET ON BALCONY FRONT; D. A. DUBIOUS

"Jon Hall, veteran of the battle on Tommy Dorsey's balcony, has declined to sign a criminal complaint, leaving any further maneuvers in the hands of District Attorney Fred N. Howser, who says he - is prepared to present the case to the criminal complaints committee of the Grand Jury, Sept. 5. Questioning of witnesses was called off when Pat Dane, wife of Dorsey and center of the midnight melee, was excused from appearing, at the D. A.'s office because of her nervous condition. Meanwhile, Antonio Icaza, Panamanian actor who was bruised in the- encounter, is not certain whether he will press his \$40,000 damage suit against Dorsey and seven others. He said he had some business to attend in Panama. Besides, his visitor's pass to this country expires in 10 days."⁴⁹

August 23, 1944 (Wed)

There were four news reports about Tommy Dorsey other than stories about the August 5, 1944 incident. There were rumors Buddy Rich wanted out of his contract with TD because he was getting a better deal from Artie Shaw. Rich would remain with Dorsey for a while longer and not take a deal with Shaw because MCA was preparing for Rich to front his own band. It was announced Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey would stage a "battle of the bands" September 1, 1944 at Casino Gardens. It was also reported the Dorseys were exploring the possibility of buying an east coast ballroom. Finally, NBC installed a direct line into Casino Gardens for high-quality broadcasts.

August 27, 1944 (Sun)

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Fanny Brice, guest

Commercial Release

CD: **HEP CD-39**

Cheek to Cheek, I'll Be Seeing You, Embraceable You

⁴⁹ Variety, August 23, 1944, p. 2

August 27, 1944 (Sun) 4:00-4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)
LOC RWA 6678 B3-4
Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Fanny Brice, guest

B-18-5, NBC-136

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Cheek to Cheek (TS), You're A Sweetheart (BW), I'll Be Seeing You (TS), East of the Sun (And West Of The Moon) (BA-Band), Swinging on a Star (FB), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), Embraceable You, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

"You're A Sweetheart" and "East Of The Sun (And West Of The Moon)" were used for AFRS AHP-50.

V-Disc

VP-Unidentified
EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON)
(Brooks Bowman)
Vocal refrain by Bob Allen and the Band

Issues

G M C

EAST OF THE SUN (AND WEST OF THE MOON)

12" 78 V-Disc Unissued

16" 33 AFRS BML P-145

CHEEK TO CHEEK

16" 33 AFRS BML P-319

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 46

(SS 9-4-1/2)

AFRS-354

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Cheek to Cheek (TS), You're A Sweetheart (BLW), I'll Be Seeing You (TS), East Of The Sun (And West Of The Moon) (BA-Band), Chicago (TS), Body And Soul, Swinging On A Star (FB), Embraceable You, IGSOY (theme), Little White Lies, Dubbed AFRS Close

"Chicago" was taken from the August 6, 1944 NBC broadcast. "Body and Soul" and "Little White Lies" were taken from the July 23, 1944 NBC broadcast.

August 30, 1944 (Wed)

It was reported in the trade press that Tommy Dorsey was selling his Bernardsville, New Jersey "Tall Oaks" estate. A deal had fallen through the prior week, but a new offer had been received and papers would soon be passed. Dorsey was quoted as saying his decision was made because h was centering his future activities on the west coast.⁵⁰

G M C

⁵⁰ Variety, August 30, 1944, p. 40



Tommy Dorsey and Frank Sinatra at M-G-M, August-November 1944
During filming of "Thrill of a Romance" (TD) and "Anchors Aweigh" (The Voice)



M-G-M Publicity Still, "Thrill of a Romance" August-November 1944
Van Johnson, Esther Williams, Tommy Dorsey

September 1944

TD ASKS JAN. 1945, INSTEAD OF OCTOBER CAPITOL DATE

"New York, Aug. 26 – Tommy Dorsey may not appear at the New York Capitol until after the first of the year. He was slated to go in some in October, following Horace Heidt, who follows Gene Krupa when the latter pulls out some time in September. Dorsey has a contract for the Capitol but wired last week asking if he couldn't come in after the first, as he had to finish his pic and other commitments on the coast. He started a pic for M-G-M July 2. It was to take 10 weeks but there's a possibility that shooting will run longer. Dorsey is slated to go into the New York Paramount after the Capitol sometime next year as the result of a snarl between himself, the Paramount and Capitol. He had a contract with the Paramount, but the Capitol wanted him, and the result is that he is playing latter theatre first."⁵¹

September 3, 1944 (Sun) NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal

September 3, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWA 6635 A1-2

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

George Burns and Gracie Allen, Guests

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), The Lady in Red (TS), Blue Orchids (BA), I'll Be Seeing You (BLW), Who? (BA), Ain't Misbehavin' (GA), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), Easy to Love, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recording

VP-Unidentified

BLUE ORCHIDS

(Hoagy Carmichael)

Bob Allen, vocal

Issues

BLUE ORCHIDS

12" 78 V-Disc Unissued

16" 33 AFRS BML P-348 (USA)

THE LADY IN RED

16" 33 AFRS BML P-162 (USA), AFRS H-7-134 (USA)

⁵¹ The Billboard, September 2, 1944, p. 20

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 47

(SS-9-11-1/2)

B-D7-5, AFRS-355

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), The Lady in Red (TS), Blue Orchids (BA), I'll Be Seeing You (BLW) (When Your Heart's On Fire) Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, Who? (BA-Band), Whispering (BW), The Lamp is Low (BA), Easy To Love, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close

"(When Your Heart's On Fire) Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" was taken from August 6, 1944 NBC broadcast. "Whispering" was taken from the July 9, 1944 NBC broadcast. "The Lamp is Low" was taken from the July 30, 1944 NBC broadcast.

September 8, 1944 (Fri)

NBC Hollywood

V-Disc Recording Session

Morty Palitz, session supervisor⁵²

VP 943 – D4TC 445

V-Disc 347-A (P release), Navy 127-A (G release)

FOR ALL WE KNOW

(Sam Lewis-J. Fred Coots)

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

THE LADY IN RED

(Mort Dixon-Allie Wrubel)

Vocal refrain by the Sentimentalists

G M C

Mastered October 13, 1944

Tests recorded November 28, 1944 and November 30, 1944

VP 999 – D4TC 483

V-Disc 362-A (Q release), Navy 151-A (H release)

I'M NOBODY'S BABY

(Benny Davis-Milton Ager-Lester Santly)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams

THREE LITTLE WORDS

(Bert Kalmar-Harry Ruby)

⁵² Sears, V-Discs, p. 232

Commercial Releases

CD: **Collector's Choice CC-35952**

For All We Know, The Lady In Red, I'm Nobody's Baby, Three Little Worlds

CD: **HEP CD-40**

For All We Know, The Lady In Red, I'm Nobody's Baby, Three Little Worlds

September 10, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm

NBC Hollywood

"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" (NBC) (KFI)

LOC RWA 6634 B3-4

Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers

Tommy Dorsey, host

Martha Raye, Guest

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), The Lady in Red (TS), For All We Know (BA), I'll Be Seeing You (MR-TD), Three Little Words, Shut My Mouth (MR), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), Dancing in the Dark, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recordings

VP-Unidentified

FOR ALL WE KNOW

Vocal refrain by Bob Allen

VP 921 – D4TC-428

SHUT MY MOUTH

Vocal refrain by Martha Raye

Issues

FOR ALL WE KNOW

12" 78 V-Disc Unissued

16" 33 AFRS BML P-162 (USA)

SHUT MY MOUTH

16" 33 AFRS BML P-256 (USA), AFRS H-2-124 (USA)

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 48

(SS 9-18-1/2)

AFRS-356

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Crazy Rhythm (TS), For All We Know (BA), Wagon Wheels, I'll Be Seeing You (MR-TD), Together (BW-BA-BW), Three Little Words, Shut My Mouth (MR), Little White Lies, Dancing in the Dark, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close

"Wagon Wheels" and "Together" were taken from the August 6, 1944 NBC broadcast. "Little White Lies" was taken from the July 23, 1944 NBC broadcast.

GRAND JURY PROBING DORSEY-HALL BRAWL

"Hollywood, September 12 - Grand Jury investigation of the Tommy Dorsey-Jon Hall battle begins today, when first Witnesses will, appear before the group. Hearing was called for purpose of sweeping probe into the fracas after County Grand Jury's criminal complaints committee voted unanimously in favor of the hearing. Subpoenaed for appearance before the panel are Dorsey, Hall, Allan Smiley, Pat Dane, Eddie Norris, Antonio Icaza, Jesus Castellano, a Jane Doe, Jane Churchill, Dr. Marcus Crahan and Dr. Bernard Pearson. Latter two physicians examined Hall just after battle. There is also possibility that other witnesses will be called before investigation is completed of what happened at the August 5 brawl."⁵³

TOMMY DORSEY, WIFE INDICTED

Charged With Assaulting Screen Actors Jon Hall and Eddie Norris

Los Angeles, Sept. 13 – Bandleader Tommy Dorsey, the "sentimental gentleman of swing," has been indicted along with his actress wife Pat Dane on charges of assaulting screen actors Jon Hall and Eddie Norris. Also named in the county grand jury's charges of "assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily harm" to Hall and Norris is movie director Allen Smiley. The three were indicted after they had declined to testify yesterday (Sept. 12) about a "battle of the balcony" last Aug. 5 at trombonist Dorsey's swank Hollywood apartment. The long-haired Hall, husband of radio singer Frances Langford, has said he was almost disassociated from the end of his nose and Norris, after going to his friend's rescue, declares he was knocked flat by somebody with one punch. The principals haven't publicly explained the cause of the fracas, however. Dorsey wasn't in a communicative mood when Deputy District Attorney Edwin Myers began to interrogate him about the scrap. Myers said the musician pulled a piece of paper from his pocket and read, 'I refuse to testify on the ground that it might tend to incriminate and degrade me.' Tommy's wife and Smiley read the same typewritten statement, the prosecutor said. The whole thing took less than 10 minutes. Lawyers announced that the trio would appear for arraignment tomorrow. Hall, with a curving scar near the end of his nose, conferred with the grand jurors for more than an hour. Also testifying was Norris, former husband of actress Ann Sheridan; Ms. Jane Churchill of Kansas City; Jesus Chuey, a Spanish entertainer and a negro maid at the Dorsey residence. Their statements were not a matter of official court record, however.⁵⁴

⁵³ Variety, September 13, 1944, p. 2

⁵⁴ Associated Press, September 13, 1944

September 11, 1944 (Mon)
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios
Culver City, California
Soundtrack Recording Session
M-G-M Film Production “Thrill of a Romance”

BATTLE OF THE BALCONY JIVE
(Dodo Mamarosa)
(Impromptu Jam Session)

CD: **Rhino R2 75283**

INSIDE STUFF – ORCHESTRAS & MUSIC

“Frank Sinatra's appearance next week with Tommy Dorsey on the Lucky Strike "All Time Hit Parade" program (NBC) came as a distinct surprise to people in the business' who were unaware the two had made up their old differences. Dorsey and Sinatra had been at odds ever since the dispute" over the contractual hold the former had on the singer, which was settled with cash. Reunion came about in Hollywood, where the two are making pictures at Metro. Dorsey heard of a stand in his (Dorsey's) behalf by the singer and one day walked onto the Sinatra set to patch things up.”⁵⁵

September 14, 1944 (Thu)

Tommy Dorsey and Pat Dane surrendered, were arraigned, posted bail and released pending a preliminary hearing before Superior Court scheduled for September 26, 1944.

September 15, 1944 (Fri)

The band opened at Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California, for a three-week engagement through Thursday, October 5, 1944.⁵⁶

September 17, 1944 (Sun)
NBC Hollywood
Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” Rehearsal
Frank Sinatra, guest

Commercial Releases

CD: **HEP CD-39**

I Can't Give You Anything But Love (Baby), I'll Walk Alone (FS), South of the Border, If You Are But A Dream (FS), Summertime

⁵⁵ Variety, September 13, 1944, p. 39

⁵⁶ The Billboard, August 26, 1944, p.20

September 17, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
“Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” (NBC) (KFI)
Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Frank Sinatra, Guest

NBC-409

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme),), I've Got Rings on My Fingers (TS), I Can't Give You Anything But Love (Baby) (BLW), I'll Walk Alone (FS), South of the Border (Down Mexico Way), If You Are But a Dream (FS), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), Summertime, IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recording

Unissued
IF YOU ARE BUT A DREAM
(Adapted from “Romance” by Anton Rubinstein)
(Moe Jaffe-Jack Fulton-Nat Bonx)
Vocal refrain by Frank Sinatra

Issues

IF YOU ARE BUT A DREAM

12” 78 V-Disc Unissued

I'VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS

16” 33 AFRS BML P-175 (USA)

I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANTHYING BUT LOVE

16” 33 AFRS BML P-202 (USA)

I'LL WALK ALONE

16” 33 AFRS BML P-175 (USA)

SOUTH OF THE BORDER

16” 33 AFRS BML P-175 (USA)

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 49

(SS 9-25-1/2)

B-Z612-3, AFRS-357

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), I've Got Rings on My Fingers (TS), I Can't Give You Anything But Love (Baby) (BLW), Lover Come Back to Me, I'll Walk Alone (FS), South of the Border (Down Mexico Way), April in Paris, If You Are But a Dream (FS), On The Sunny Side of the Street (TS), Summertime, IGSOY (theme), Dubbed AFRS Close

“Lover Come Back to Me” was taken from the August 20, 1944 NBC broadcast. “April in Paris” and “On the Sunny Side of the Street” were taken from August 13, 1944 NBC broadcast.

The sale of Tommy Dorsey's Tall Oaks home in Bernardsville, New Jersey closed Tuesday, September 19, 1944. The price was undisclosed.⁵⁷

G M C

⁵⁷ Variety, September 20, 1944, p. 45



Jon Hall and Frances Langford

JON HALL TELLS GRAND JURY OF BATTLE WITH DORSEY

“Los Angeles, Sept. 20 – Movie actor Jon Hall told the grand jury that investigated his battle with bandleader Tommy Dorsey on the balcony of the musician’s Hollywood apartment last month that Dorsey hit him “with a big black thing that came up and struck me between the eyes, and that Ms. Dorsey (Pat Dane) cut him with a knife or bottle. The transcript of Hall’s testimony was filed yesterday with the clerk of the superior court. His version of the fight together with those of 11 other witnesses whose statements resulted in indictments charging felonious assault against Dorsey, his wife Pat Dane and Allen Smiley, Hollywood sports figure, related: ‘Dorsey said, I’m going to kill you.’ I grabbed him around the head and said, “If I go over the railing you are going with me.’ We stood there. My nose was bleeding, but Dorsey said it was him that was bleeding. Then Pat came running out and she grabbed me by the air. Dorsey hit me on the jaw with something and took me off my feet. Hall’s testimony declared that Ms. Dorsey cut him with a knife or bottle. ‘Instinctively I pulled my head back,’ Hall testified, ‘I don’t know whether it was a bottle or a knife, but it first caught me on the nose and cut through my nostril. While she was doing this, she and Tommy and everybody started screaming like they were hopped up. Ms. Dorsey began screaming at the top of her voice to ‘get Smiley’.’ Testifying about how the fight started, Hall said h had left the Dorsey apartment but returned to get the purse of his companion, Jane Churchill of Kansas City, Missouri. H said he put his arm around Ms. Dorsey and apologized for returning. He quoted Dorsey: ‘What are you doing with my woman?’

'I asked him what he was talking about, Hall's testimony stated,. 'He said, 'I saw you look around to see if I was there.' I said, 'Tommy, you are drunk, or you have been smoking the wrong kind of cigarettes.' That, Hall testified, was when he was knocked down. Hall told the grand jury that after stories of the fight appeared in the newspapers, Dorsey said, 'Let me come to your house and I'll call all the newspapers and have them send people out here and we'll have our pictures taken together playing gin rummy or dinking cokes or something.' Hall said Dorsey and his wife called him many times to apologize and that Dorsey once telephoned, 'This thing is getting pretty serious. We've got to do something to make them laugh it off with the people, the district attorney and the grand jury.' Dorsey, Ms. Dorsey and Smiley refused to testify when they were summoned before the grand jury." ⁵⁸

September 23, 1944 (Sat) 6:30-6:55 pm
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 630
AFRS Spotlight Bands 475

September 24, 1944 (Sun)
NBC Hollywood
"Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade" Rehearsal
Eddie Cantor, guest

Commercial Releases

CD: **HEP CD-39**

Song of India, I'll Never Smile Again (BA-TS)

⁵⁸ Associated Press, September 21, 1944

September 24, 1944 (Sun) 4:00 - 4:30 pm
NBC Hollywood
“Lucky Strike All Time Hit Parade” (NBC) (KFI)
Harry Von Zell and Basil Ruysdael, announcers
Tommy Dorsey, host
Eddie Cantor, guest

Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (open), IGSOY (theme), Song of India, I'll Never Smile Again (BA-TS), I'll Walk Alone (BW), How 'Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down On The Farm (After They've Seen Paree) (EC), I'm Going To Sit Down and Write Myself a Letter (EC), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme), Smoke Gets In Your Eyes, Love in Bloom (Jack Benny Theme), IGSOY (theme), Lucky Day (Lucky Strike Theme) (close)

V-Disc Recording

VP 936 – D4TC 438
HOW 'YA GONNA KEEP 'EM DOWN ON THE FARM
(AFTER THEY'VE SEEN PAREE)
(Sam Lewis-Joe Young-Walter Donaldson)
Vocal refrain by Eddie Cantor

Issues

HOW 'YA GONNA KEEP 'EM DOWN ON THE FARM
12" 78 V-Disc 358-B (P release) (USA)
I'LL NEVER SMILE AGAIN
16" 33 AFRS BML P-175 (USA)

This was the final program in the 1944 Lucky Strike summer series. “The Jack Benny Program” was launched for the 1944-1945 season the following week.

AFRS Your All-Time Hit Parade 50
(SS 10-2-44-1/10-2-44-2)

Dubbed AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Song of India, I'll Never Smile Again (BA-TS), I'll Walk Alone (BW), How 'Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down On The Farm (After They've Seen Paree) (EC), I'm Going To Sit Down and Write Myself a Letter (EC), (When Your Heart's On Fire) Smoke Gets In Your Eyes, IGSOY (theme), AFRS Dubbed Close

“East of the Sun (And West of the Moon)” and “You're A Sweetheart” were taken from the August 27, 1944 NBC broadcast. “Amor” was probably taken from the 20 August 20, 1944 NBC broadcast.

DORSEYS FREED ON ONE CHARGE

“Los Angeles, Sept. 27 – Bandleader Tommy Dorsey Wednesday stood cleared of one of the two felony indictments, which grew out of his “battle of the balcony” with actor Jon Hall, Aug. 5. Agreeing with the defense there was insufficient evidence to support the charge, Superior Court Judge Clement D. Nye dismissed the indictment covering the beating given to actor Eddie Norris during the grand melee. Dorsey's wife, actress Pat Dane, and their friend, Allen Smiley, were also cleared of the charge. The main

indictment involving the fight with Hall was sustained. The three were ordered to stand trial on that charge Nov. 14.”⁵⁹

G M C

⁵⁹ International News Service, September 27, 1944

October 1944

October 1, 1944 (Sun)

Casino Gardens Ballroom, Ocean Park, CA

(NBC) (KFI)

ET: NBC, RCA MT 503 (1), RCA MT 519 (2)

(Unknown Announcer)

IGSOY (open), Opus One, The Bells of Normandy (Are Ringing Again) (BA-TS), It's A Crying Shame, Swingin' on a Star, I Dream of You (BA), Amor (BLW-TS), Well, Get It!, IGSOY (close)

Commercial Release

CD: **Reader's Digest RC7-007**

Well, Git It!

CAP BUYING DORSEY FOR TURKEY DAY

"New York, Sept. 30 – The Capitol is bringing in a double-barrel bill for the Thanksgiving season. Attraction is Tommy Dorsey on stage and "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" on screen.⁶⁰

DORSEY SHOW NIX NOTHING TO DO WITH T. D.'S CALIF. TRIAL

"New York, Oct. 7 – Dropping of the Tommy Dorsey radio show for Lucky Strike (*All Time Hit Parade*) last week with replacement by Jack Benny (NBC – 7 pm) wasn't the result of unfavorable publicity Dorsey has gained in newspapers recently. According to those close to the situation, Dorsey's contract was for 13 weeks, with a memorandum agreement for renewal that only formal understanding between Dorsey and the sponsor. The original understanding was that Benny would plug Pall Mall cigarettes, and when he was switched to Lucky Strike, Dorsey was out. Rumor he had been cut out of his current pic at M-G-M lot is also untrue, according to those close to the scene. Dorsey's trial comes up in California State Court in November."⁶¹

October 8, 1944 (Sun) 4:30 - 5:00 pm

NBC Hollywood

Fitch Bandwagon

(NBC) (KFI)

Richard "Dick" Powell, announcer

⁶⁰ The Billboard, October 7, 1944, p. 22

⁶¹ The Billboard, October 14, 1944, p. 11

**October 11, 1944 (Wed) 6:30 - 6:55 pm,
Davis-Monthan Army Air Base, Tucson, Arizona
Coca Cola Spotlight Bands 645 (Blue)**
Jackson Wheeler, announcer

B-S4-3, BLUE-34

Coca Cola Open, There'll Be a Hot Time in the Town of Berlin (TS), I Dream of You (BA), Spotlight Salute B-24 Crews, Heavenly (BW), Bells of Normandy (TS), Coke Talk "New Guinea," Amor (BW-TS), Coca Cola Close

AFRS Spotlight Bands 490 (SS 10-12-5)

B-D9-3, AFRS-495

Dubbed AFRS Open, There'll Be a Hot Time in the Town of Berlin (TS), I Dream of You (BA), Bells of Normandy (TS), Coke Talk "New Guinea," Amor (BW-TS), Dubbed AFRS Close

**October 14, 1944 (Sat) 11:30 pm - Midnight
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, CA
(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)**
Bill Ewing, announcer

AFRS One Night Stand 391
(SSR 10-20-44-1/10-20-44-2)

G M C

AFRS 470/487, SSRH 22-1

Dubbed AFRS Open, Is You Is or is You Ain't My Baby (BLW), I Dream of You (BA), Three Little Words, I'll Walk Alone (BLW), Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), You're Mine You, The Bells of Normandy (BA), The Eyes and Ears of the World (Paramount on Parade), Song of India, Dubbed AFRS Close

"You're Mine, You" was taken from an April 22, 1944 broadcast. "Song of India" was taken from a May 15, 1944 broadcast. "Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby" and "The Bells of Normandy" were used for AFRS ONS-466.

Commercial Release

CD: **Mr. Music MMCD-7023**

Complete AFRS Transcription

October 15, 1944 (Sun)
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, CA
(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)

(Partial) Heavenly (BLW), I Dream Of You (BA), Losers Weepers, IGSOY (close)

October 21, 1944 (Sat) 11:30 p. m. - Midnight
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, CA
(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)

October 22, 1944 (Sun) (Undetermined)
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, CA
(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)
Irving Howard, announcer

(Partial) Heavenly (BLW), I Dream of You (BA), Well, Get It! (to close)

25G FOR FREDDIE STEWART AS T. DORSEY VOCALIST

"Keynoting the value of first-grade band vocalists is the \$25,000 yearly figure Tommy Dorsey is said to be paying Freddie Stewart, whom he signed last week. Stewart left for the Coast Thursday (19), where he'll join T. D. Stewart's figure is quoted as tops for any singer, male or female, appearing with a dance band. It's about double the amount Frank Sinatra drew when he was under contract to Dorsey."⁶²

October 28, 1944 (Sat)
Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, California (Concert)

October 29, 1944 (Sun)
Oakland Auditorium, Oakland, California (Concert)

"San Francisco attendance was 5,000 while Oakland was around 6,000."⁶³

October 31, 1944 (Tue), 6:30 - 7:00 pm
Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 662
AFRS Spotlight Bands 507

⁶² Variety, October 25, 1944, p. 2

⁶³ The Billboard, November 11, 1944, p. 21

**October – November 1944, NBC Hollywood
Transcription Dubbing Session AFRS “Downbeat”**

(From “All Time Hit Parade” recordings)

AFRS H-7-106 and AFRS H-7-134

Jim Lyons, announcer

Tommy Dorsey, guest

AFRS Downbeat 106 and Downbeat 134

AFRS 784/785

AFRS Open, IGSOY (theme), Chicago (TS), I’m Nobody’s Baby (BW), Boogie Woogie, Smoke Gets In Your Eyes, On The Sunny Side of the Street (TS), Sweet and Lovely (BA), The Lady in Red (TS), Amor (BW), Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai), AFRS Close, Boogie Woogie (ride out)

The titles were taken from the following “All Time Hit Parade” programs:

July 2, 1944	Hawaiian War Chant (Ta-Hu-Wa-Hu-Wai)
July 16, 1944	Sweet and Lovely
July 30, 1944	Amor
August 6, 1944	Chicago, (When You Heart’s On Fire) Smoke Gets in Your Eyes
August 13, 1944	On The Sunny Side Of The Street
August 20, 1944	I’m Nobody’s Baby
September 2, 1944	The Lady In Red

G M C



Tommy Dorsey with his mother and wife Pat Dane
"Taking the Fifth"



Allen Smiley
September 13, 1944

November 1944

DORSEY WITNESSES DISAPPEAR

"Hollywood, Nov. 3 – Prospects of spicy testimony in bandleader Tommy Dorsey's trial on charges of assaulting screen hero Jon Hall got an early dash of cold water today when three key witnesses were reported missing. District Attorney Fred N. Howser admitted he has sent process servers scurrying all over town to subpoena actor Eddie Norris, singer Jane Churchill and Panamanian actor Anthony Icaza to give their versions of the now-famous 'battle of the balcony.' Norris' attorney said his client was fulfilling theatrical engagements in New York and had apparently forgotten about the Nov. 14 trial. He said Norris expected to remain east 'indefinitely.' Ms. Churchill, a voluptuous blond who says she is related to Winston Churchill, was also in New York. Senor Icaza, Panama's only actor to crash Hollywood, has been whisked away to his homeland on immigration charges. He was the only participant in the battle who was willing to talk about it. He not only talked; he sued Dorsey for \$40,000 because he had been 'scared to death'." And, as if Mr. Howser did not have enough trouble with the trial only 11 days away, he learned today that the bandleader and his shapely actress wife, Pat Dane, were also out of the state on a band tour. They would, their attorney assured him, be back in town by November 14.⁶⁴

November 4, 1944 (Sat) 11:45 pm - Midnight
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California (NBC) (KFI)
(Sustaining)

November 7, 1944 (Tue)
CBS Hollywood
"Command Performance" 149 (AFRS)
AFRS H-18-149
Ken Carpenter, announcer
Claudette Colbert, host

G M C

AFRS-320

Includes: Opus One, On the Sunny Side of the Street (TS), What Is This Thing Called Love? (BLW)

⁶⁴ Associated Press, November 3, 1944

FILM FOLK'S LIGHT READING LOST AS DORSEY CASE FIZZLES

Prosecutor to Ask for Dismissal With Key Witnesses Missing

Hall Wants To Forget

"Hollywood, Nov. 10 – The trial Hollywood has been counting on for light winter reading with assault charges against bandleader Tommy Dorsey, his beautiful wife and gambler Allen Smiley blew up today when Deputy District Attorney Vernon Ferguson pointed to a long list of missing witnesses and recommended calling the whole thing off. District Attorney Fred N. Howser said he would ask Judge Arthur Crum for a dismissal. Dorsey and his two co-defendants were scheduled for a court appearance Monday. Ferguson issued his recommendation after Hall told him he could not testify exactly who conked him, or what with, the night he left Dorsey's apartment with the tip of his nose dangling. 'I was too busy trying to keep Tommy from tossing me over the balcony to see who was slashing at me,' Hall said. 'And it might have been anything from a bottle to a knife. All I know is it took 50 stitches to put my nose and neck back together.' Mr. Howser was expected to follow his aide's advice. Mr. Ferguson said that evidence would not hold up in court long enough for the recorder to get it typed. 'Besides, three of our key witnesses are out of state,' he added. 'As things stand now, a trial would be just a waste of taxpayer's money'."⁶⁵

November 10, 1944 (Fri)

It was reported the Dorsey Brothers were interested in selling their share of Casino Gardens.⁶⁶

November 11, 1944 (Sat) 11:30 pm - Midnight
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California (NBC) (KFI)
(Sustaining)

⁶⁵ United Press, November 10, 1944

⁶⁶ Variety, November 10, 1944

DISKING STARTS, BAN'S OVER

RCA-VICTOR, NBC & COLUMBIA SIGN

"New York, Nov. 13 - It's all over brother, including the shouting! Yep, on Armistice Day, November 11, somewhere around 6 pm after five hours of clearing legal throats, bantering words back and forth, Mr. James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, sat back in his leather chair, victor in a heated and spirited contest that ran some 28 months. And you can believe it, that this armistice marks the end of hostilities that were as bitter and hard fought as World War I. Skimming over the contracts that RCA-Victor, on behalf of its recording corporation, and Columbia Recording Corporation signed, two additional clauses were noted as having been inserted into the contract that Decca and some 100 additional companies signed in September 1943. These additional clauses have plenty of bite in them and setup a system whereby the AFM "protects" itself in case the whole thing should happen again after the present contract (one that was just signed expires on December 31, 1947. Harry James will be the first to disk for Columbia, cutting two sides today (13) a 11 am Vaughn Monroe was the first RCA-Victor band to disk, cutting four sides yesterday ... Tommy Dorsey is set to record the first week on the coast"⁶⁷



James Cesar Petrillo
American Federation of Musicians
(Library of Congress)

⁶⁷ The Billboard, November 21, 1944, p. 3

Personnel

Freddie Stewart (voc) replaces Allen

TOMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHSTRA

Trumpets: George Seaberg, Mickey Mangano, Dale Pierce, Roger Ellick; Trombones: TD, Nelson Riddle, Walter Benson, Tex Satterwhite; Bass-Horn: Joe Park; Reeds: Buddy De Franco (clt, as), Sid Cooper (as), Al Klink, Gail Curtis (ts), Bruce Branson (bs). Rhythm: Milt Golden (p), Bob Bain (g), Sid Block (b), Buddy Rich (d). Strings: Harp: Reba; Vocalists: Bob Allen, Freddie Stewart, Bonnie Lou Williams. The Sentimentalists; Arranger: Sy Oliver

November 14, 1944 (Tue) RCA Studios, Hollywood Victor Recording Session

D4VB 1030-1

ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET

(From the Columbia film "Is Everybody Happy")

(Dorothy Fields-Jimmy McHugh)

Vocal refrain by Sy Oliver and the Sentimentalists

Sy Oliver arrangement

10" 78: Victor 20-1648-B, 20-2005-B, 47-2875, 27-0094, HMV (Au) EA 3368,
HMV (E) BD 5909, HMV (Fi) TG 138, Electrola EG 7561
7" 45: RCA Victor 447-0121, 447-0911, RCA Victor EPA-238, 428, 476, 641,
5046; EPBT-3030-2, HMV (E) RG 8011, RCA (NZ) 20038,
12" 33: RCA Victor LPT-15, LPM-1070, LPM-1234, RCA VPM-6038
CD: RCA (G) PD 89810-3 (003562 89810-28)

D4VB 1030-2

ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET

(From the Columbia film "Is Everybody Happy")

(Dorothy Fields-Jimmy McHugh)

Vocal refrain by Sy Oliver and the Sentimentalists

Sy Oliver arrangement

10" 78: Victor 20-2005-B

Both D4-VB-1030-1 and -2 were issued on reissue RCA Victor 20-2005-B (Set P-163 Tommy Dorsey All Time Hits"). Take 1 is same as the original issue Victor 20-1648-B. Take 2 on 20-2005-B is a circa-1949 Hollywood pressing (Courtesy of Joe Knox).

November 14, 1944, Continued ...

D4VB 1031-1

I DREAM OF YOU (MORE THAN YOU DREAM I DO)

(Marjorie Goetschius-Edna Osser)

Vocal refrain by Freddie Stewart

Sy Oliver arrangement

10" 78: Victor 20-1608-A, HMV (Au) EA 3322

CD: Reader's Digest RC7-007-1/3

D4VB 1032-1

LIKE SOMEONE IN LOVE

(Johnny Burke-Jimmy Van Heusen)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams

10" 78: Victor 20-1622-B, HMV EA 3281 (Australia)

12" 33: Reader's Digest RD 184

D4VB 1033-1

OPUS NO. 1

(Sy Oliver)

Sy Oliver arrangement

10" 78: Victor 20-1608-B, 20-2008, 27-0025, 47-2875. HMV (E) B 5884,

7" 45: RCA 447-0119, RCA Victor EPA-238, EPA-428, EPA-805, EPA-5034, EPBT-3030-2, RCA (E) RCX 1002

12" 33: RCA Victor LPT-15, LPM-1229, LPM-3674, RCA VPM-06038, RCA Camden CXS 9027(e), Pickwick Camden CXS 9027

16" 33 ` AFRS BML P-696 (USA)

CD: RCA (G) PD 89810-3 (003562 89810-28), Reader's Digest RC7-007-1/3

TOMMY DORSEY CASE WILL GO TO TRIAL

"Los Angeles, Nov. 17 – District Attorney Fred N. Howser announced today that assault charges against musician Tommy Dorsey, Pat Dane, his actress wife and Allen Smiley, man-about-Hollywood, will definitely go to trial next Tuesday. The charges arose from a battle at Dorsey's home last August 5 in which actor Jon Hall was injured. Last week Howser's office said dismissal of the case would probably be asked because of the absence of Key witnesses. Howser said today, however, 'the case will be tried with such witnesses as are available'."⁶⁸

⁶⁸ Associated Press, November 18, 1944

November 18, 1944 (Sat) 11:30 – Midnight
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California
(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)

AFRS One Night Stand 466

AFRS-945

Dubbed AFRS Open, Mandy, I'll Be Seeing You (FT), It Could Happen To You (BLW), I'll Walk Alone (FT), Buster's Gang Comes On, I Dream of You (FT), The Bells of Normandy (BA-TS), Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby (BLW), Midriff, Dubbed AFRS Close

"Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby" and "The Bells of Normandy" were taken from the October 14, 1944 broadcast. "Buster's Gang Comes On" was used for AFRS ONS-533.

November 19, 1944 (Sun) 4:30-5:00 pm

NBC Hollywood

Fitch Bandwagon

(NBC) (KFI)

Richard "Dick" Powell, announcer

AFRS Bandwagon 128

AFRS-943

Dubbed AFRS Open, Chicago (TS), I'll Walk Alone (FT), It's A Crying Shame (BLW), Boogie Woogie, You Always Hurt The One You Love (DP), Dubbed AFRS Close

November 20, 1944 (Mon)
RCA Studios, Hollywood
Victor Recording Session

D4VB 1034-1

SLEIGH RIDE IN JULY

(From the RKO film "Belle of the Yukon")

(Johnny Burke-Jimmy Van Heusen)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams

10" 78: **Victor 20-1622-A (USA)**

D4VB 1035-1

DON'T EVER CHANGE

(Ted Grouya-Nat Burton)

Vocal refrain by Freddie Stewart

10" 78: Unissued

D4VB 1036-1

I SHOULD CARE

(From the M-G-M film "Thrill of a Romance")

(Sammy Cahn-Axel Stordahl-Paul Weston)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams and the Sentimentalists

Axel Stordahl and Paul Weston arrangement

10" 78: **Victor 20-1625 (USA)**

November 21, 1944 (Tue)

BALCONY FIGHT STILL MYSTERY AS DORSEY TRIAL OPENS

Los Angeles, Nov. 21 – The trial of Tommy Dorsey, his attractive wife, Pat Dane and Allen Smiley on charges of feloniously assaulting screen star Jon Hall last Aug. 5 was scheduled to open Tuesday before Los Angeles superior court Judge Arthur Crum. Charges against the Dorseys and Smiley were contained in indictments returned by the grand jury after a probe of the predawn melee, which climaxed a party at Dorsey's Hollywood apartment. Reported flying up from Panama was Antonio Icaza, a musician, expected to be one of the state's major witnesses, who himself has a \$40,000 suit pending against the Dorseys in connection with a nicked ear he claimed to have received in the scuffle. District Attorney Fred N. Howser's last-minute decision to go ahead with the trial, after he admitted Hall was virtually the only key witness he had been able to subpoena, was based partially on a cablegram from Icaza stating he was eligible to re-enter the United States despite being deported last August (after the fight). Chief Complaint Deputy Edwin Myers, who will handle the state's case in court, took the original statements of all involved, which summed up to but one undisputed fact. Hall, handsome hero of romantic films of the south seas, had been badly slashed upon the nose and about the back of the head and neck. The motives behind the violence and even the manner in which the wounds were inflicted, remained clouded.⁶⁹

November 22, 1944 (Wed)
RCA Studios, Hollywood
Victor Recording Session

G M C

D4VB 1045-1

PLEASE DON'T SAY NO

(From the M-G-M film "Thrill of A Romance")

(Ralph Freed-Sammy Fain)

Vocal refrain by Freddie Stewart

10" 78: **Victor 20-1625-B (USA)**

D4VB 1046-1

VP 1127 D5TC 63

V-Disc 406-B (S release), Navy 286-B (J release)

YOU'RE DRIVING ME CRAZY (WHAT DID I DO?)

(Walter Donaldson)

Vocal refrain by The Sentimentalists

Sy Oliver arrangement

10" 78: **Victor 20-1614-B (USA)**

⁶⁹ International News Service, November 21, 1944

November 22, 1944, continued ...

D4VB 1047-1

VP 1127 D5TC 63

V-Disc 406-B (S release), Navy 286-B (J release)

MORE AND MORE

(E. Y. Harburg-Jerome Kern)

Vocal refrain by Bonnie Lou Williams

10" 78: **Victor 20-1614-A (USA)**

November 25, 1944 (Sat) Standby Program

Coca Cola Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands 684 (Blue)

AFRS Spotlight Bands 529 (SS 11-27-12)

May 27, 1944 Network Broadcast and AFRS Dub

Wayne Griffin, announcer

November 25, 1944 (Sat) 11:30 – Midnight

Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California

(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)

November 26, 1944 (Sun) 4:30-5:00 pm

NBC Hollywood

Fitch Bandwagon

(NBC) (KFI)

Richard "Dick" Powell, announcer

G M C

AFRS Bandwagon 129

AFRS-944

Dubbed AFRS Open, Somebody Loves Me (TS), I Dream Of You (FT), Together (BLW),
Three Little Words, I Only Have Eyes For You (DP), Dubbed AFRS Close



Tommy Dorsey, Pat Dane and attorney Issac Pacht
November 27, 1944

TOMMY DORSEY TRIAL OPENS

Los Angeles, Nov. 27 – Bandleader Tommy Dorsey and his actress wife, Pat Dane, had a booking in court to fulfill today, on charges of felonious assault based upon an early morning fight in the Dorsey apartment last Aug. 5. Indicted with them by the county board jury was Allen Smiley, Hollywood figure, whose trial likewise was scheduled to open today. Screen actor Jon Hall charged he was severely injured in the fight, which followed an evening spent as a guest of the Dorseys. Physicians said stitches were taken in his nose. Hall, testifying before the grand jury last September, said he had left the party but returned for a purse forgotten by his companion. He stated he became involved in an altercation with Dorsey after he patted the bandleader's wife on the shoulder and that while he and Dorsey were fighting on the apartment balcony, Ms. Dorsey cut him with a knife or bottle. In his grand jury testimony filed with Superior Court, Hall said also that Dorsey told him, "I'm going to kill you." Dorsey, his wife and Smiley declined to testify. Hall told the jury the end of his nose was also severed in the fracas.⁷⁰

⁷⁰ Associated Press, November 27, 1944

DORSEY'S TRIAL IN UPROAR AS GANSGTER IS MENTIONED Defense Attorneys Demand Mistrial But Judge Overrules Their Motion

"Hollywood, Nov. 28 – The name of Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel, one-time member of "Murder, Inc.," introduced during selection of jurors for trial of Mr. and Ms. Tommy Dorsey and gambler Allen Smiley, today brought defense attorneys to their feet shouting for a mistrial. Issac Pacht, counsel for Dorsey and his wife actress Pat Dane and Jerry Giesler, representing Smiley, leaped to their feet when Deputy District Attorney Edwin L. Myers uttered the name. Judge Arthur Crum refused to call a mistrial."⁷¹

TOMMY DORSEY ASSAULT TRIAL MAKES FORMER FLOOR SHOWS LOOK SICK

"Los Angeles, Nov. 29 – Tommy Dorsey could produce a much better floorshow than the performance that has been put on so far in Superior Judge Arthur Crum's courtroom but there have been a few theatrical byplays during the first two days. Trombone Tommy has had experience with floorshows but he, his wife Pat Dan and friend Allen Smiley are temporarily merely in the wings while their attorneys and the district attorney do the best they can to select a jury. The jury, which probably will be seated sometime today, will try Mr. and Ms. Dorsey and Smiley on charges of feloniously assaulting movie actor Jon Hall at a party celebrating Pat's 26th birthday Aug. 5. Byplay between the lawyers enlivened an otherwise uneventful day and as court convened today there were 11 women and one lone man tentatively seated."⁷²

JANE CHURCHILL FIRST WITNESS AT DORSEY TRIAL

"Los Angeles, Nov. 30 – The story of one of Hollywood's best battles of 1944, the bout between bandleader Tommy Dorsey and movie romeo Jon Hall was to be unfolded today for a jury trying Tommy, his good-looking wife and his friend Allen Smiley on felonious assault charges. There are going to be several versions of the fracas. A tall and statuesque blond singer, Ms. Jane Churchill of Kansas City, Missouri, was ready to present the first. She went to a party celebrating Ms. Dorsey's 26th birthday last Aug. 4. About 3 o'clock the following morning the fight broke out. Ms. Churchill told a grand jury that indicted the Dorseys and Smiley that she and Tommy's wife, Pat Dane had a torrid battle of their own. She lost some of her long golden locks and she and Pat tore each other's clothes. That was Jane's introduction to Hollywood. It was her first full day in the movie capital and now she is eager to get back to Kansas City. She wants to marry Sgt. Wallace Feig there. To facilitate that, the district attorney called her ahead of the complaining witness, Hall. The Dorsey's counsel, Issac Pacht, says Ms. Churchill will remain here over the weekend. He describes her as an 'important defense witness too' and says it may take three days to record all her testimony."⁷³

⁷¹ Associated Press, November 28, 1944

⁷² Associated Press, November 29, 1944

⁷³ United Press, November 30, 1944

December 1944

RECESS CALLED IN DORSEY TRIAL

Who Slashed Jon Hall's Nose Remains A Mystery

"Hollywood, Dec. 2 – Already days ahead of the expected schedule, the assault trial of bandleader Tommy Dorsey and Co. started a week-end recess today with speculation that defense attorneys would call for an early dismissal of the charges. Three key witnesses including Jon Hall have visited the stand, but none, least of all Hall, have been able to throw much light on the mystery of who slashed off the end of the bronze film actor's nose at the luxurious Dorsey apartment last Aug. 5. Alternatively h had named all three of the defendants, Dorsey, his wife Pat Dan and gambler Allen Smiley, who are being tried on charges of felonious assault against Hall. Details of the slashing took a back seat yesterday as Jerry Giesler, defense attorney representing Smiley, brought up the subject of a "snake hips" rumba Hall danced with Ms. Dane to relieve the tension created by quarreling guests. 'Ms. Dane started to rumba by herself, then she came toward me and did a series of bumps and wiggles. The crowd insisted I dance with her, and I did four or five steps and then sat down, Hall related. Attorney Issac Pacht, representing the Dorseys, wanted to know if the bandleader was annoyed when Hall danced with his wife. 'He was very annoyed,' Hall replied. At this point superior Judge Arthur Crum discarded the bored expressions he's worn all week and plunged into the questioning himself, saying he knew all along he'd have to. 'When you entered the apartment,' he asked Hall, 'did you put your arms around Ms. Dorsey? And if so, where, and for how long?' Hall said he put one arm around her shoulder for about a second or possibly a second and a half after thinking it over. 'Did she resent the gesture?' the judge asked. Hall said she didn't as far as he could tell. Crum asked Hall to demonstrate the embrace with his lawyer, Grant Cooper. Grinning sheepishly, the two six-footers went into a clinch. Then Geisler approached the bench, also grinning. 'Now Mr. Hall,' he said, 'Ms. Dorsey wasn't as fully covered as Mr. Cooper, was she?' Hall blushed and said no. If he remembered correctly, he said, she was wearing a very low-cut gown that left her neck and shoulders bare. 'That's all I wanted to know,' Giesler purred. The final witness yesterday was Antonio Icaza, the movie-struck Panamanian who said Dorsey struck the first two blows in the battle, first with an uppercut to Hall's jaw and again with a fast one between the eyes with a bottle. The nattily dressed Icaza also added that everybody at the party was drunk except himself. The trial will be resumed Monday and attorneys estimated that the state should wind up its case early in the week. The defense then would have an opportunity to ask for an acquittal or dismissal and most indications are for the latter."⁷⁴

December 2, 1944 (Sat) 11:30 – Midnight
Casino Gardens, Ocean Park, Santa Monica, California
(NBC) (KFI) (Sustaining)

⁷⁴ United Press, December 3, 1944

December 5, 1944 (Tue)

DAFFY DORSEY TRIAL IS STILL CONFUSION

“Los Angeles – Dec. 5 – The daffy Dorsey trial, now in its second week, was still a welter of confusion today. The prosecution has yelled “uncle” and said it doesn’t have the necessary testimony to convict bandleader Tommy Dorsey, Ms. Dorsey and their friend Allen Smiley, on charges of feloniously assaulting movie actor Jon Hall. Without any explanation on or off the record, the court denied the surprise motion for dismissal made by Deputy District Attorney Edwin Myers. ‘It is the feeling of the district attorney’s office that it cannot sponsor testimony such as we have had in this case,’ said Myers. ‘I couldn’t conscientiously ask this jury to convict anybody on such testimony.’ But with the court’s ruling, the state is stuck with its case, or what’s left of it. The rest of the case, in this case, seems to be a Latin guitar player, Jesus Castilleon. Jesus was strumming his guitar in the lavish Dorsey apartment last Aug. 5 when Tommy, Hall and Smiley staged a free-for-all over Hall’s alleged attentions to Ms. Pat Dane Dorsey. Everybody who has preceded Castilleon on the stand seems to be confused and muddled about what happened, so if Jesus has any clear recollection he’s the man of the hour. He’s to be the next witness. Hall told varying accounts of what happened and finally concluded that although he was pretty badly beaten, cut and almost lost the end of his nose, he could not put the finger on anybody. He said he wouldn’t want to be convicted of anything on the kind of testimony he had given. Then can Icaza – Anthony Ismael Icaza, swarthy Panamanian actor. He’s the fellow who sued Dorsey for \$40,000 damages, alleging he suffered injuries at the Dorsey wing ding in celebration of Ms. D’s 26th birthday. Dorsey’s counsel, Issac Pacht, tried to trip up Tony on the deposition he made when he filed the civil action against the ‘sentimental gentleman of swing.’ He did gain Icaza’s admission that he had stated he wasn’t even in the music maestro’s apartment when the hostilities started. But Tony said he was sick and confused when he made the deposition. The document, he contended, was shot full of errors. Some of them, he intimated, must have been the court reporter’s, and anyway, he said he saw Dorsey smash a bottle on Hall’s head and Ms. Dorsey do a stint of impromptu surgery on Hall’s nose with a kitchen knife. ‘What kind of a hold did Hall have on Tommy Dorsey while they were fighting?’ asked Pacht. ‘He had him in a padlock,’ Icaza responded (the other witnesses said it was a headlock, but Tony has his own way of sizing up things). ‘Come on up here and I’ll show you,’ volunteered Icaza. Pacht had asked for it and he got it, a tight headlock, with Tony demonstrating as he stepped out of the witness chair. There was a roar from the spectators as Pacht came out of it, red faced and wobbly. Tony even took over the questioning himself at times. When Pacht asked him what Dorsey was doing to Hall during the fight, Icaza moved to strike the question. Superior Judge Arthur Crum did the striking. He told the jury to disregard Tony’s question. Icaza’s lawyer, A. A. Coviello, was in the court while this was going on and when he approached the bench to make a statement, Judge Crum had a bailiff eject him. The court’s ruling was that Icaza, not being a litigant, was not entitled to have counsel. The defense is going to move for a mistrial as soon as the state has finished. If the motion is denied, Dorsey, his wife and Smiley are ready to take the stand. They contend Icaza wasn’t anywhere in the apartment while the flight was going on.⁷⁵

December 6, 1944 (Wed)

⁷⁵ Associated Press, December 5, 1944

PROSECUTOR ASKS DORSEY CASE END

“Los Angeles – On the ground that he represents all the people of Los Angeles County, including the accused, District Attorney Fred N. Howser today announced his office will not oppose a defense motion for dismissal of the Tommy Dorsey assault case. In a statement, which he instructed his deputy in the trial Edwin Myers to incorporate in his argument on the motion, Howser cited a Supreme Court decision, which he said justified such a position. Argument on the defense motion went into its second day today. The judge has announced he will take it under advisement after all the points of law have been threshed out.”⁷⁶

December 7, 1944 (Thu)

The band without TD opened at the Panther Room, Hotel Sherman, Chicago, Illinois, for a two-week engagement through Wednesday, December 20, 1944. In Los Angeles, Superior Court Judge Arthur Crum dismissed charges of felonious assault against Tommy Dorsey, Pat Dane and Allen Smiley.⁷⁷



“Case Dismissed”
(L to R) Allen Smiley, Attorney Jerry Geisler, Pat Dane and Tommy Dorsey
December 7, 1944

DORSEY ACQUITTED ON INSTRUCTION BY JUDGE AT TRIAL All Defendants Also Set Free On Court Order

⁷⁶ International News Service, December 6, 1944

⁷⁷ Los Angeles Times, Variety, December 8, 1944

“Los Angeles, Dec. 7 – Judge Arthur Crum today dismissed the assault charges against Tommy Dorsey, his wife Pat Dane and their neighbor, Allen Smiley, growing out of an attack on Jon Hall. The court said it had been reluctant to take the case from the consideration of the jury but felt that under the state of the record it would be an abuse of its judicial discretion not to do so. Judge Crum referred to one of the state’s principal witnesses, Antonio Icaza, Panamanian actor, as a ‘fabulous, masterful fabricator of falsehoods, a perjurer pure and simple, demonstrated innumerable times out of his own mouth.’ Icaza escaped last night from protective custody, the sheriff’s office said, but was rearrested early today and committed to the county jail. In referring to the testimony of movie actor Jon Hall, Judge Crum said, ‘Hall cannot be relied upon to tell how, why and when he received those injuries. On four different occasions, Mr. Hall has made four divergent and contradictory statements concerning the episode, which brings this case before the court. Analyzing Hall’s testimony in the light most favorable to him and without accusing him of committing outright perjury in the court, the fact nevertheless remains that what he has said with respect to the details is based upon nothing more than conjecture and surmise on his part. Each time he has been called upon to make a statement about the case, he has some different guess to make. Let it be said in fairness to Mr. hall that in appraising his own testimony on the witness stand he has stated that he would want no person to be convicted upon his testimony alone. Mr. Hall’s testimony is in such an unsatisfactory state as to its reliability as to compel the court not to permit the jury to consider it, because to do so would be to permit the jury to guess based upon a guess’.”⁷⁸

G M C

⁷⁸ Associated Press, December 7, 1944

TOMMY DORSEY TRIAL MERITS "OSCAR" FOR BEST COMEDY OF 1944

"Los Angeles, Dec. 8 – Too bad the Tommy Dorsey felonious assault trial isn't eligible for the Motion Picture Academy "Oscar" as the craziest comedy of 1944. It would win in a walk. Superior Court Judge Arthur Crum yesterday dismissed charges that music maestro Dorsey, his electric brunette wife, Pat Dan and their neighbor Allen Smiley pummeled the daylights out of Jon Hall, who specializes in making love to south sea island native girls. The court said it simply could not reconcile all the conflicting and confused mass of testimony. It branded Antonio Icaza, sleek-haired Panamanian sailor and chief prosecution witness as a 'fabulous, masterful fabricator of falsehoods, a perjurer pure and simple.' Polled informally, the jury said it wouldn't have convicted the defendants on the basis of the evidence it had received. But the jurors were quite willing to hear the Dorsey version of what happened at the cocktail party in the bandleader's apartment Aug. 5. Icaza, who escaped from protective custody while the court was considering the motion for dismissal, was arrested and booked on a charge of perjury. Since he is here from Panama on a visitor's permit he will be sent home soon. If he ever tries to come back he perjury charge will be waiting, prosecutor Edwin Myers said. He is the witness who specialized in "I don't know" and "I can't remember" answers. Hall, who took a beating at the party, said h was glad the case had been dismissed. He said h at no time wanted to prosecute the Dorseys and Smiley and he didn't sign a complaint against them. Pert Pat Dane says she has learned her lesson. From now on, it will take a pedigree to get into her apartment. Tommy? Oh, Tommy has gone on the wagon. Says he has a \$500 bet with his manager to stay on for six months. He has three months to go and may make the thing permanent. Hall's nose, meanwhile, is mending rapidly. Somebody in the Dorsey apartment did a nasty job of carving it but he doesn't know who. A plastic surgeon says Jon's proboscis will be as good as new when the plastic shield comes off."⁷⁹

T. D. BACK AT JOB; 400 CLUB DEAL NOT SET

"New York, Dec. 11 – Freed of assault charges in Los Angeles, Tommy Dorsey is skedded to play a couple of concert dates in Toronto December 18-19, where he's guaranteed \$8,000 an appearance. The dates are sandwiched in between his Sherman Hotel stint and opening at the New York Capitol December 21. He hasn't definitely sounded off on whether he will play the 400 Club, New York, nitery-restaurant, which has announced a switch to a name-band policy after the first of the year. Understood that deal there is for him to work on a guarantee of \$6,000 plus a certain number of covers (\$1-\$2), which would put around \$10,000 a week into his pocket. Dave Taps is agenting, with owner Nat Moss now saying he's going to get his talent by free lancing rather than exclusively through MCA."⁸⁰

⁷⁹ Associated Press, December 8, 1944

⁸⁰ The Billboard, December 16, 1944, p. 14

POPULAR RECORD REVIEWS

By M. H. Orodener

Tommy Dorsey (Victor)

I Dream of You FT; VC. Opus No. 1 – FT

"The Tommy Dorsey trombone is still standard in selling the big band, sliding it sweetly for one of the sweeter ballads of the day in "I Dream of You." And in his new vocal find, Freddie Stewart, Dorsey introduces a lad who has a free and easy style of singing out the lyrical expressions in the romantic tradition that is so easy to take. For contrast, Dorsey mates his initial side with one of Sy Oliver's riff concertos in the naively titled "Opus No. 1." It's nothing more, however, than the casual riff pattern that shows off a well-coordinated band. But the instrumental spark displayed herein is no great shakes in the solo flashes of the clarinet and piano. Nor does the composition itself or the arrangement rise above stock levels, following the general pattern of unison saxes and building to the outgoing sock chorus. The return of Tommy Dorsey to the waxes with such ballad content as "I Dream of You" makes for a coin-catching side in the music machines."⁸¹

December 18, 1944 (Mon)

Toronto, Ontario

December 19, 1944 (Tue)

Toronto, Ontario

T. DORSEY BAND SET AT MEADOWBROOK

"Tommy Dorsey apparently has given up plans for operating a ballroom in the east similar to his Casino Gardens spot in Ocean Beach, California, in which brother Jimmy Dorsey is a partner. T. D. has been booked to play Frank Dailey's Meadowbrook, Cedar Grove, N. J., immediately following his run at the Capitol theatre, N. Y., which opens tomorrow (21)."⁸²

December 21, 1944 (Thu)

Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra opened at the Capitol Theatre in New York for a scheduled four-week engagement. The film at the theatre was "Music For Millions."

⁸¹ The Billboard, December 23, 1944, p. 21

⁸² Variety, December 20, 1944, p. 30

VAUDEVILLE REVIEWS

Capitol, New York

(Reviewed Thursday Evening, Dec. 21)

"Tommy Dorsey's first appearance on the Main Stem since last Christmas marks his first appearance at Loew's Capitol, hitherto appearing at the Paramount down the street and he'll do plenty biz for that theatre by virtue of his name drag. He's given plenty of time onstage, show running nearly an hour. His ork almost overflows into the pit, numbering 30 musicians, plus four gal singers, the Sentimentalists. That the show fails to impress lies in one direction. T. D. never dominates, which he should from beginning to end. Payees come in to plunk their dough down to hear the king of the trombone and they walk out with D. giving out fully only on one tune, "Body and Soul." That's a corker, opening with a specially written vocal entre for the gal singers and sliding into Dorsey, who makes with "Soul" like only Dorsey can. Fiddles behind him (10), five trumpets, three trombones, five sax, a tuba, harp and four rhythm instruments – including Buddy Rich on drums and Jess Stacy at the piano – give that tune the old T. D. stamp. It would have made an ideal opener, but stacked way back it's given a bad shuffle to the musical deck. Dorsey fans who've come to hear his band will get plenty of that, for they open with two disk faves, "Git It" and "Song of India," the latter with strings added. "Git" is solid, but the No. 1 spot is where Dorsey should have stepped into the spotlight. From then on h should have guided the goings-on and tied them up into a neat package. Again, if Dorsey were to intro tunes between times, to remind folks that they were dickers and get his personality into the show rather than just blow his horn, it would make for a warm stage presentation. The way it is now, it races through, impersonally, and leaves the audience conscious of Dorsey's ork on stage, but that's all."

"He's blessed with fine instrumentalists around him and kids with fine voices, but in many cases the wrong type of material is used. The Sentimentalists do "Sunny Side of the Street" and "Don't Fence Me In." Both are standard and need an added kicker for stage presentation that wasn't there. They're also in on the finish with "Trolley Song," which is well done but definitely not finale material Freddie Stewart, male vocalist and Bonnie Lou Williams, a duo with fine voices, join in and give it a well-rounded rendition. Stewart has fine timbre but hasn't quite mastered control as yet. His pitch is off at times, but he's got plenty of quality. Ms. Williams has plenty of quality but just fails to land 'em in the aisles. Voice is true and likeable, and gal is a looker. The pic is "Carolina Blues (with Kay Kyser)." ⁸³

Continued with Volume 1 Chapter 11

Tommy Dorsey
1945 Chronology

⁸³ The Billboard, December 30, 1944, p. 17